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OPINION METER

This week's poll:
Do you fully understand
CUC's explanation why it is
asking for an increase in
its electric base rates?

Let your voice be heard!
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to cast your vote.

INSIDE



Space Program

Where will the space shuttles wind up once the program winds down?

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School Shooting

A gunman in Brazil line up 12 children against a wall and shoot them in the head.

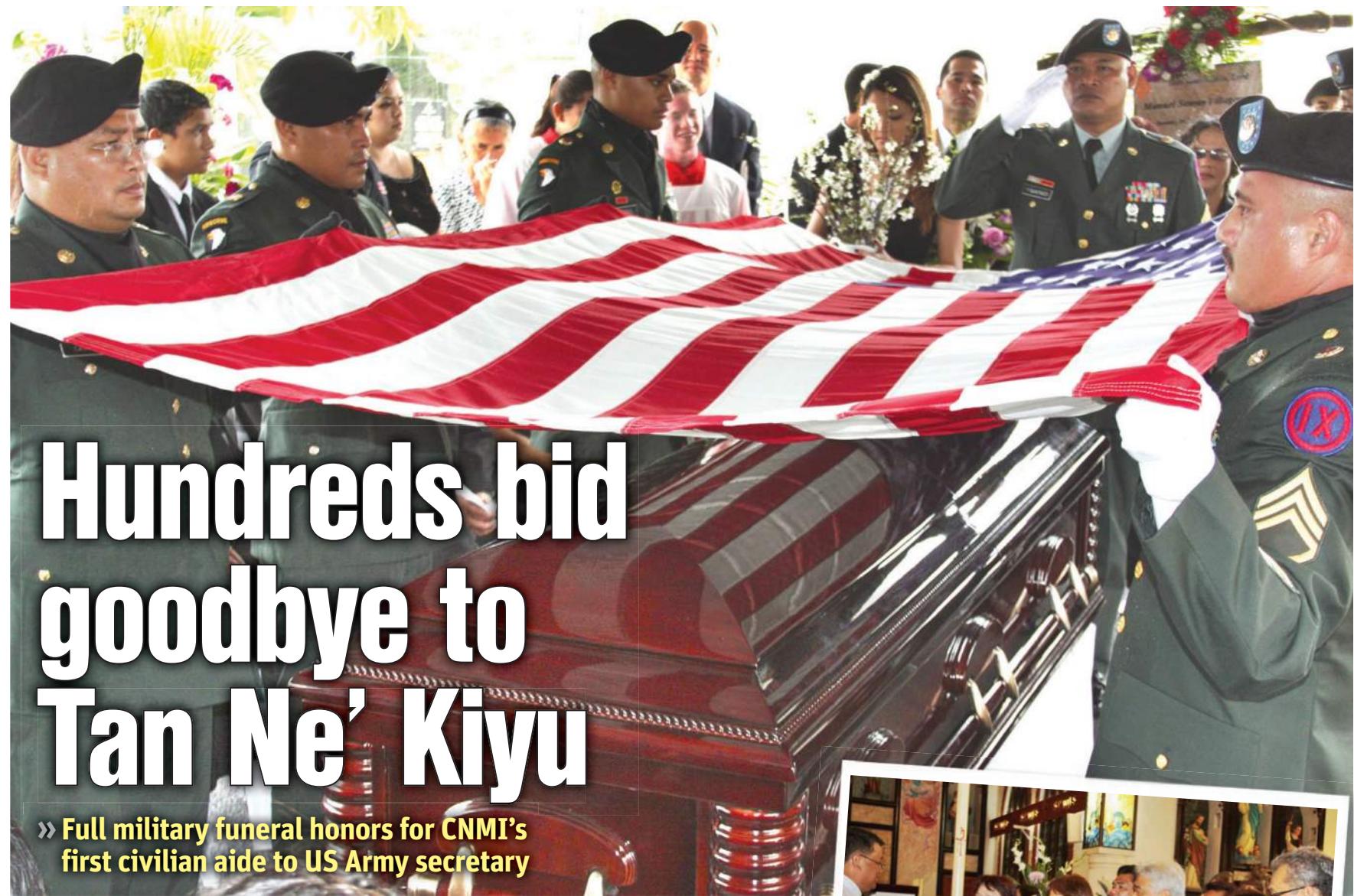
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New Officers

New officers of the United Filipino Organization are inducted at the Saipan World Resort.

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Hundreds bid goodbye to Tan Ne' Kiyu

» Full military funeral honors for CNMI's first civilian aide to US Army secretary

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
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REPORTER

Hundreds of community and family members turned out for yesterday's public viewing, funeral Mass, and burial of one of the CNMI's pioneer entrepreneurs, first civilian aide to the secretary of the U.S. Army, and well-loved family man.

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Broadband mapping to kick off next week

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
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REPORTER

Acting Commerce secretary Sixto Igisomar said yesterday that he will issue next week a notice to proceed on the over \$1 million sole-source contract to One Economy Corp. so that the Washington, D.C.-based firm can begin its tasks related to sustainable broadband adoption and mapping.

He said the contract is for 180 days and will be done in

See BROADBAND on Page 4

Manuel Seman Villagomez "Kiyu" receives full military funeral honors yesterday afternoon at the Chalan Kanoa Cemetery amid the rain, while inset shows House Speaker Eli Cabrera (R-Saipan) presenting to Villagomez's children a resolution honoring one of the CNMI's pioneer entrepreneurs at a ceremony at the Mount Carmel Cathedral.

HAIDEE V. EUGENIO



US House panel OKs Manglona nomination

WASHINGTON, D.C.—The Senate Judiciary Committee approved yesterday the nomination of Judge Ramona Villagomez Manglona to be the Judge for the Federal District Court for the Northern Mariana Islands. The Committee ordered her nomination to be sent to the full Senate for a vote there, the final step in the confirmation process. The Committee acted by voice vote. The vote for Man-

glona was unanimous.

"This is great news, of course, for Judge Manglona," said Congressman Gregorio Kilili Camacho Sablan. "I didn't want to wake her, but I did send her an e-mail as soon as the Committee acted.

"This is also very good news for the Northern Mariana Islands," the congressman said. "We are just one step away from having someone from our islands

installed as the Federal District Court judge who presides over our islands. This is a significant milestone in our political development."

Manglona has moved through the confirmation process quite quickly. President Obama announced that he was nominating the Northern Marianas Judge to the Federal bench on Jan. 27, 2011. Manglona appeared before the Committee on March 16 to take questions. Now, three weeks later the Committee has recommended

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Manglona

Hotels, retailers accessing 'free' standby service from CUC. PAGE 2
Public urged to avoid exposed reefs, beaches. PAGE 3

Local

CPUC consultant opposes changes to Telesource contract

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
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REPORTER

The Commonwealth Public Utilities Commission's consultant strongly opposes a request by the Commonwealth Utilities Corp. and Telesource CNMI to change their contract agreement, saying that, if approved, it will reportedly cost CUC customers some \$33 million.

Georgetown Consulting disclosed this in its testimony on the fifth change order request filed by CUC on the contract it signed with Telesource CNMI Inc., the operator of CUC's Tinian power plant.

"The change order [No. 5] will cost CUC customers approximately \$33 million over the 15-year term of the change order if approved by the CPUC. Customers would see their monthly bills rise—for each 1,000 kWh per month of consumption, customers would immediately see a \$6.92 increase. If approved, the Tinian plant will be the least loaded power plant but will be the most expensive to operate on a day-to-day basis. The cost in the first year will result in customers being required to pay \$1.5 million," said Georgetown.

It urged the commission to reject the request.

The proposed change order would modify the monthly payment structure by increasing the quality management fee from \$50,000 to \$198,000 and reducing the production fee from 3.0 cents to 2.39 cents per kWh. It also proposes to extend the term of the agreement to 15 years, with a provision that CUC could reduce it to five years if CUC determines that fossil fuel generation is no longer needed, "which is a highly unrealistic situation," according to Georgetown.

Also included in the change order request is the elimination of the existing \$6 million buyout provision of the contract and passing on to CUC the cost of lube oil, estimated at about

\$300,000 per year.

"The buyout option, currently at \$6 million, is also more economic than change order 5, although there is a question as to where CUC would obtain the \$6 million to fund the buyout provision. We note that this would be a capital expense and could be potentially financed," said Georgetown.

Additionally, the proposed change order reimburses Telesource at cost plus 15 percent when it performs some delivery system construction requested by CUC, but not otherwise required to be provided by Telesource under the agreement. It

also grants Telesource an exclusive power production arrangement for all future petroleum-based power production.

Four change orders

CUC first contracted Telesource to build and run the 10-MW diesel power plant on Tinian in September 1997, at a cost of \$21.6 million. Under the agreement, CUC would pay Telesource \$180,000 a month, represented by 120 promissory notes. On top of this monthly payment, CUC was also obligated to pay \$50,000 monthly to quality and management fee and a production fee of two cents per kWh.



GOVERNOR AT WORK

Gov. Benigno R. Fitial signs memos during a break on the first day of the 2011 Pacific Aviation Directors Workshop on Tuesday at the Fiesta Resort & Spa in Garapan.

MMAC 2011 adds another title sponsor

Younis Art Studio, Inc. has been named a major sponsor of the 2011 Marianas March Against Cancer. Major sponsorship status is conferred on companies that donate \$1,000-\$2,999 in cash or services.

"We'd like to express our sincere gratitude to the staff and management of Younis Art Studio for their continued support of this annual event which raises funds for cancer patient assistance, cancer awareness programs and other cancer related services. Their contribution is greatly appreciated," said 2011 MMAC public relations committee chair Christopher A. Concepcion.

The 2011 MMAC committee would like to remind the public that all MMAC teams are currently selling luminaries and raffle tickets for only \$5 each. Purchase a luminary in honor of someone who has survived or is currently battling cancer or in memory of a person who has lost the fight against this deadly disease. Or you can purchase a raffle ticket for a chance to win great prizes courtesy of title sponsor Delta Air Lines. In addition, each team will be holding individual fundraising events so please support your favorite team by contributing to their fundraising efforts," said Concepcion.

The confirmed 2011 MMAC

teams are Ahu, Aschoscho, Bank of Guam/Garapan Elementary School, Bodig, IT&E, Marianas Health Services/GTC Elementary School, Pacific Islands Club, Saipan Health Clinic/St. Jude Renal Care Facility, Tan Holdings/Kagman High School and Take Care/FHP.

The 2011 Marianas March Against Cancer will be held on May 13-14, from 6pm to 6am, at the Hopwood Junior High School field in Chalan Piao.

For more information on the 2011 MMAC, contact overall committee chair Dave B. Guerrero at 989-2496 or via email at dave.b.guerrero@gmail.com or visit www.ccamarianas.org. (PR)

CUC would then ultimately own and operate the plant.

In November 1998, the first change order increased the size of the plant to 20 MW with the installation of two 5 MW units within 14 months and the addition of a 30-MW substation. Change order 2 was executed

in November 1998 and implemented a more detailed procedure for submission and review of the drawings and technical specifications used in the performance of the work undertaken by Telesource. Change order 3 was adopted in May 2001 and extended the term of

contract to 2020; and change order 4 was executed in April 2003, authorizing Telesource to use the plant as security for a loan with the Commercial Bank of Kuwait.

CPUC will hear and decide on the proposed change order 5 this month.

Hotels, retailers access 'free' standby service from CUC

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
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REPORTER

A number of hotels, resorts, and retail establishments on Saipan not connected to the power grid are accessing free of charge a standby electric service from the cash-strapped Commonwealth Utilities Corp..

Georgetown Consulting revealed this in a report to the Commonwealth Public Utilities Commission and recommended that these businesses should be charged by CUC to help in its financial recovery efforts.

"These self-generators are currently 'free riders' on the CUC system and have a portion of the cost necessary to maintain their electric service being subsidized through existing rates by all other CUC existing consumers," said Georgetown in its recent testimony to the commission.

The CPUC consultant said the standby charge covers the cost incurred by an electric utility for making power available to cus-

tomers that self-generate, or those producing their own power with their own internal generating resources but can connect to the power grid when needed.

This allows them to rely on the CUC electric power system whenever their generation is unavailable for scheduled maintenance or is forced out of service due to an emergency outage.

Saipan Tribune learned that under the current CUC tariffs and rules and regulations this is permitted.

The consultant said that other hotels had maximum monthly kilowatt-hour usage levels that were 12 times greater than their minimum monthly usage—a clear indication that these hotels are using CUC to provide standby service.

"As long as self-generators have the ability to simply take power without any rate consequence associated with CUC 'standing-by' to provide such power these customers are not being charged the actual cost

required to provide such service," it said.

Georgetown believes that it is reasonable for CUC to consider collecting "standby charge" to those "free riders."

Georgetown disclosed that other island power utilities such as Guam Power Authority, Hawaiian Electric Co., Maui Electric Co., Hawaiian Electric Light Co., and Kauai Island Utility Cooperative are charging \$5 per kilowatt monthly fee, unlike CUC.

"We do recommend that the CPUC adopt and approve a \$5 per kilowatt monthly standby charge as well as the previously provided standby tariff, as modified. It should be recognized that utilities routinely impose standby charges and that such charges are consistent with utility ratemaking principles. We concur that the standby charge should be higher than \$5 per kilowatt monthly and that CUC should be required to develop a cost based standby rate in the future," added Georgetown.

Association offers series of cultural classes

Are you a Chamorro or Carolinian 14 years or older?

The Inetnon mot yan Kultur Naibuu/Mwiischil Safey me Kkoor Arasamal Falw (Association of Native Medicine and Culture) is offering Saturday classes to all Chamorros and Carolinians (14 years old and up) on coconut and pandanus leaves weaving, bead making, and, especially for males, coconut grater making, during the month of April.

Classes start at 9am and ends at about 12pm.

Items made by participants belong to the participants and participants may sell items made at the gift shop and earn money.

Classes are held at the Chamorro and Carolinian Village Cultural Center Headquarters at 1213 Capitol Hill Road, across the CNMI Workforce Investment Agency and by the CNMI Board of Parole Office on Capital Hill. Call 322-0278 or stop by on Saturday.

Classes vary each month. In May: cooking native foods, mak-

ing coconut oil, and especially for males, making chonka, tuba, and fish and meat dryer. In June: arts and craft, music and dancing, and especially for males, robe making. In July: fishing and land hunting, story telling, and conflict resolution. In August: outside oven baking and local medicine. In September: gardening. In November: making koronas.

Activities from previous months may be repeated should there be enough participants for a particular activity. (PR)

Lawyers get more time to study SS scam case

The federal court has granted the defense lawyers' request to give them more time to examine the cases against their clients, two persons accused of involvement in a scam of buying U.S. Social Security account cards issued to former garment factory workers on Saipan with the intent to establish identities for illegal immigrants in the U.S. mainland.

Attorneys Joseph Camacho and F. Matthew Smith, counsels for Feng Dong and Ya Jing Pei respectively, asked the U.S. District Court for the NMI on

Thursday to move the arraignment to a later date so they could further study the cases.

Camacho and Smith notified the court that their clients waived the required 21-day time period for the preliminary hearing and also waived the time period for the identity hearing.

U.S. District Court for the NMI designated judge David Wiseman granted the requests and moved the arraignment to May 13, 2011.

The U.S. government filed with the U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Illinois

Eastern Division a complaint charging Dong with conspiring to unlawfully use and transfer five or more Social Security cards.

A complaint filed in the same district charged Pei with possession with intent to unlawfully use and transfer five or more Social Security cards.

A Federal Bureau of Investigation special agent stated in his affidavit that Dong and Pei, current Saipan residents, were involved in supplying SS cards and identity information to persons in the U.S. mainland. (Ferdie de la Torre)

7-13 FEET SURF LIKELY TO BE SEEN ON WEEKEND

Public urged to avoid exposed reefs, beaches

The National Weather Service issued yesterday a high surf advisory for the CNMI and Guam, asking the public to avoid venturing near exposed reefs and beaches until Monday night as rip currents will be life-threatening.

The National Weather Service in Guam urged residents on Saipan, Tinian, Rota, and Guam to take precautionary and

preparedness actions, especially those along north through east facing reefs.

The service predicted that the highest surf would occur along unobstructed shorelines facing northeast where surf would be as high as 13 feet Friday night.

It said 11 feet surf is most likely to be seen today, Saturday, and 7 to 10 feet surf

on Sunday. Inexperienced mariners, particularly those operating small boats, are advised to avoid boating under these conditions.

"If travel by boat is necessary, exercise caution especially when entering or leaving harbors and inlets and near reef lines. Wear flotation gear," the service said its small craft advisory. (*Ferdie de la Torre*)

Senate confirms CPA board member; Saipan lawmakers OK nominees to Zoning, SHEFA

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
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REPORTER

By a vote of 9-0, the Senate confirmed on Wednesday night the governor's reappointment of Fermin Sakisat to the Commonwealth Ports Authority's board of directors.

His confirmation came hours after the Senate Executive Appointments and Government Investigations held a public hear-

ing on his nomination.

EAGI Committee chair Sen. Frank Cruz (R-Tinian) and the rest of the panel members, then recommended Sakisat's confirmation to the full Senate.

Sakisat will serve another four-year term as representative for Saipan until Feb. 13, 2015. Sakisat, who has been with the CPA board since 2009, is a former chairman of the board's personnel committee

for two terms.

The Saipan and Northern Islands Legislative Delegation, meanwhile, confirmed three appointees during a brief session on Thursday morning.

The delegation confirmed Gov. Benigno R. Fitial's nomination of Herman P. Sablan to serve on the Commonwealth Zoning Board.

Sablan, who will serve a two-year term, replaces Henry S. Hofsneider.



FOR JAPAN

Joeten Motors president Frances T. Demapan, second from left, presents a \$1,000 check donation from the Commonwealth Auto Dealers Association, to American Red Cross-NMI Chapter executive director John Hirsh for Japan disaster relief efforts during the Saipan Chamber of Commerce's monthly meeting on Wednesday at the Pacific Islands Club in San Antonio. From left, Chamber president Douglas Brennan, Demapan, Hirsh, Japan Association in the CNMI president Nick Nishikawa, Yoichi Matsumura of the NMI-Japan Disaster Relief, and First Hawaiian Bank's Juan Lizama.

HAIDEE V. EUGENIO

GUAM NEWS BRIEFS

Bordallo on a potential government shutdown

WASHINGTON, D.C.—Guam Delegate Madeleine Z. Bordallo urged congressional leaders and the White House yesterday to come to an agreement to avoid a federal government shutdown today, April 8, 2011.

The current budget resolution expires at midnight on April 8, 2011 (Saturday, Chamorro time). In the absence of an appropriations measure or a continuing resolution, all non-essential functions of the federal government will be forced to cease operations. "Republican and Democratic leaders have found areas of common ground and they are within reach of an agreement," said Bordallo. "I am concerned for the welfare of all federal employees on Guam. Federal employees will receive information from the supervisors regarding their status. I will be following guidelines from the House leadership regarding the operation of my District Office and the Washington, D.C. Office." (*PR*)

because its location provides access frequency that supports established training requirements. In addition, the air and sea space in the Farallon provides sufficient room for the many different attack profiles necessary to replicate training opportunities in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. (*PR*)

Admiral Willard expresses confidence in buildup progress

WASHINGTON, D.C.—Guam Delegate Madeleine Z. Bordallo on Thursday addressed issues regarding implementation of the so-called Guam International Agreement. Bordallo, during a hearing of the House Armed Services Committee, requested an update on the ability of the U.S. and Japan to achieve "tangible progress" in Okinawa. Once "tangible progress" is achieved, Marines could begin to move from Okinawa to Guam. She stated, however, that military construction on Guam must proceed concurrently with work in Japan in order to ensure that facilities on island will be able to accommodate the transfer of Marines from Okinawa.

Adm. Robert Willard, Commander of U.S. Pacific Command, responded that the U.S. and Japanese governments continue to move forward in obtaining "tangible progress" in Okinawa. He also expressed his confidence that funding from Japan will not be significantly affected by the current crisis in the country, and the Japanese government is resolved to move forward with the buildup.

"Japan and the United States continue to fulfill their obligations under the Guam International Agreement," said Bordallo. "Despite the tragedy in Japan, the Japanese government has demonstrated its continued commitment to resolving outstanding matters surrounding the Futenma Replacement Facility. Admiral Willard's leadership and candor in this meeting are refreshing and important to ensure the build-up is done right." (*PR*)

Use of domestic shipyard stressed with DoD

WASHINGTON, D.C.—Guam Delegate Madeleine Z. Bordallo is taking issue with the U.S. Navy's continued use of foreign shipyards for ship re-

pairs and overhauls.

During a House Armed Services Committee hearing on U.S. Transportation Command and the U.S. African Command, Bordallo expressed concern that the Military Sealift Command, a subordinate command to TRANSCOM, continues to conduct a significant number of ship repairs in foreign countries, especially in Hong Kong and Singapore.

She reiterated the need for MSC to follow the legal requirement that ship repairs must be conducted in U.S. shipyards, including Guam, and only in foreign shipyards when operationally necessary.

"The Department of Defense must not lose focus on the legal requirement to use American shipyards for the repair and overhaul of our fleet," said Bordallo. "I urge TRANSCOM and MSC to conduct less ship repairs in foreign countries and to utilize domestic shipyards to a greater extent. In a time of fiscal austerity it's easy to send business to cheaper locations but that does a great disservice to our industrial capacity at a time when we should enhance our industrial capacity." (*PR*)

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Man gets 4-day sentence for beating up daughter

A man accused of beating up his daughter at their home in Kannat Tabla has pleaded guilty as part of a plea deal and was sentenced to four days in prison.

Roman Agulto Reyes, 45, pleaded guilty to assault and battery. The remaining charges—one count of assault and battery, and three counts of disturbing the peace—were dropped.

Superior Court Associate Judge Ramona V. Manglona sentenced Reyes to a year in prison, all suspended except for four days, with credit for time served. That means he will no longer serve further jail time.

He was placed on a year of supervised probation, with a warning that if he commits another crime of domestic violence the remaining months of his suspended sentence will be re-imposed.

Reyes was also made to pay a \$100 fine, \$25 court assessment fee, and \$100 probation service fee, plus 25 hours of community service.

The judge also required Reyes to get anger management counseling, alcohol and drug counseling/treatment, parenting class, and other counseling recommended by the treatment provider or the Office of Adult Probation.

Reyes punched and kicked his daughter on Feb. 5, 2011 on Saipan. He also threw food from the refrigerator on the floor in the presence of his daughter's 5-month old son and a friend. (*Ferdie de la Torre*)

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PUBLIC NOTICE

Pursuant to Public Law 8-41, the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation (NMHC) Board of Directors, through its Chairwoman of the Board, is hereby giving notice that the Regular Meeting of the Board is scheduled on Tuesday, April 12, 2011 at 10:00 a.m. at the NMHC Conference Room, Garapan, Saipan. The public is welcome to submit written or oral comments regarding the agenda below. Individuals interested in attending the meeting and needing special accommodations are requested to contact NMHC in advance.

- I. PRELIMINARY MATTERS
 - a. Call to Order
 - b. Roll Call
- II. ADOPTION OF AGENDA
- III. ADOPTION OF MINUTE
 - a. February 23, 2011 – Regular Board Meeting Minute
- IV. COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS
 - a. CDBG Updates
- V. MORTGAGE CREDIT PROGRAM
 - a. USDA RA Matters
 - b. Payment Assistance
 - c. BankPacific Updates
 - d. Bank of Hawaii Updates
 - e. Wells Fargo Updates
 - f. Other Loan Matters
- VI. PUBLIC COMMENTS
- VII. FIELD OFFICE REPORTS
- VIII. FISCAL AFFAIRS
 - a. Financial Statements
 - b. Travel Policy
- IX. EXECUTIVE SESSION
- X. OTHER MATTERS
 - a. LIHTC Updates
 - b. LIHTC Fraud Policy
 - c. USDA RD Substantially Underserved Trust Areas
- XI. ADJOURNMENT

(Note: Pursuant to Public Law 8-41, Section 13(a) (7) and Section 13(c), the Board may vote to meet in executive session.)

/s/ MARCIE M. TOMOKANE
Chairwoman of the Board

 NMHC is a fair housing agency and an equal opportunity provider, lender, and employer.

266 checks for SHEFA scholars out

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
moneth_deposa@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Department of Finance disbursed yesterday 266 checks for the scholars of Saipan Higher Educational Finan-

cial Assistance covering the fall semester of 2010. These checks amount to \$532,000 and were available for pickup at the SHEFA office since yesterday.

SHEFA administrator Henry Hofsneider confirmed yesterday with

Saipan Tribune that all newly released checks will be for incentive scholars who have been waiting for their grants since fall semester 2010. He said the release of checks is the last payout for incentive scholars for fall 2010.

As of yesterday, 437 scholars for the spring semester 2011 remain waiting for their checks, estimated at \$778,000.

SHEFA earlier said that the continued delay in the issuance of financial awards to its scholars is frustrating many parents and students, with some even planning to stop their studies.

Due to dwindling government reve-

nu, the SHEFA board cut the financial grant awards to scholars beginning this spring semester, ranging from 25 percent up to 50 percent.

SHEFA offers three types of scholarships: grant-in-aid, priority field of study, and incentive.

Every year, SHEFA is appropriated \$3 million for its scholarship programs.



HUNDREDS

From Page 1

Manuel Seman Villagomez "Kiyu" was laid to rest with full military honors at the Chalan Kanoa Cemetery amid the rain and overcast skies yesterday afternoon.

For many, Villagomez would always be remembered as Tan Ne' Kiyu or Manet Kiyu, who was a pioneering entrepreneur through various business ventures under the M.S. Villagomez flagship of companies.

Gov. Benigno R. Fitial said Villagomez was one of those pioneers who emerged in the Northern Marianas' transition from a Trust Territory to a constitutional government.

"He was truly a pillar of our community and his many years of dedication to our community will continue to linger in the hearts of many... Given Tan Ne's exemplary service, his passing is a deep loss for our community as well," the governor said in his remarks at the Mount Carmel Cathedral in Chalan Kanoa.

Fitial and Lt. Gov. Eloy S. Inos presented a memorial plaque to the Villagomez family at the public viewing.

"Tan Ne' Kiyu will remain an important part of our history and our community's development. To his credit, along with the late Jose C. Tenorio 'Joeten', the Joeten-Kiyu Public Library stands as a constant reminder of his enduring leadership and his passion for a well served and educated community. He will be missed by many in our local community. But his contributions will live on," the governor added.

Senate floor leader Pete P. Reyes (R-Saipan) and House Speaker Eli Cabrera (R-Saipan) led lawmakers, along with visiting Guam Sen. Ben Pangelinan, in presenting Senate and House resolutions commending Villagomez.

Saipan Municipal Council chair R.B. Camacho and the Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 3457 also presented a resolution and a certificate of remembrance, respectively.

Ruth Coleman of the Military and Veterans Affairs Office read a letter from the U.S. Department of the Army secretary, also honoring Villagomez.

Villagomez was a U.S. Marine corporal during the war. He was the first civilian aide to the Secretary of the Army, a post he served twice.

The children and relatives of the late Manuel Seman Villagomez "Kiyu" pull his American flag-draped casket from the Mount Carmel Cathedral to the Chalan Kanoa cemetery yesterday afternoon.

'Poppa's many loves'

Charles V. Cepeda, who is the eldest among Villagomez's 40 grandchildren, said they are "touched" by the accolades and recognitions bestowed on their "Poppa."

"Above all that he did in and for the community, (he) was Poppa to us," he said, trying to hold back his tears.

Cepeda delivered the eulogy, while Villagomez's 12 children with wife Luise stood near the coffin—Linda, Patricia, Thomas, Barbara, Manuel Jr., Joseph, Edward, David, Nora, John, Ramona, and Antonia.

The eldest grandchild shared fond memories of his grandfather, including the story behind the name "Kiyu." Cepeda said his Poppa's father was a good fisherman mostly to help feed the family and a favorite fish catch was the sergeant fish or "kitchu."

"So in true local style, the family—now for seven generations and counting—is affectionately and proudly known as the 'Kiyu' family," Cepeda said.

His grandfather loved the beach, loved to travel, loved baseball, loved Sumo wrestling, loved golf, and loved to take photos.

"Perhaps more than his love for travel, I think Poppa loved baseball. He traveled to Japan just to watch the World Series many years ago," Cepeda said. "Saipan to Guam, Guam to Hong Kong, from there to Manila, then to Tokyo. All for the World Series in the Tokyo Dome, via Pan American Clip-

per Airlines—two propellers."

The eldest grandchild said they remember their grandfather waking up in the wee hours of the morning, "watching" the live game on the radio, and then eventually watching it on TV.

"No one dared change that channel, even if you think Poppa is sleeping," Cepeda said.

The governor also said just a couple of days before Villagomez's passing, he paid him a visit at the Villagomez home.

"I fondly recalled his love of baseball and his passion for the San Francisco Giants. It is truly no coincidence that this honorable man bid farewell, with his loved ones at his side, during the opening day games of Major League Baseball," Fitial said.

But Cepeda said of all the things his grandfather loved, "Poppa loved family the most."

"Growing up in Poppa's presence taught us valuable life lessons. Be respectful. Work hard. Do well in school. Treat everyone fairly. Go to church. Many, many others that have become our moral compasses in life," Cepeda said.

In September, Cepeda said he and his wife Cathy, along with Fathers Ryan Jimenez and Ike Ayuyu, visited his grandfather after hearing of his cancer diagnosis.

"Poppa shared his concerns but more so, his gratitude for our Lord's many blessings on him," he said.



Lt. Gov. Eloy S. Inos presents a CNMI flag to the children of the late Manuel Seman Villagomez "Kiyu" during the full military funeral at the Chalan Kanoa cemetery yesterday afternoon.

He said his Poppa's words, translated in English, were: "I am very appreciative of all I've accomplished in my lifetime through the grace and blessing from our Lord. I am ready."

Villagomez passed away peacefully on April 1, surrounded by his children. He was 87.

"His spirit remains strong and alive in his family. His lessons will carry on to the next generations. We have been blessed to have him in our hearts and in the memories we will cherish forever," Cepeda said.

After the final viewing and closing

MANGLONA

From Page 1

her to the full Senate for confirmation.

While there is no set time period in which the Senate must act, noncontroversial nominations, such as Judge Manglona's, have been moving to a vote without delay this year.

"Even though the process has been fast," Sablan said, "I think we are all feeling a little bittersweet today."

"Judge Manglona's father, Manuel Seman Villagomez, did not live long enough to see his daughter confirmed by the Senate and sworn in to serve on the Federal Court. That would have made him so proud."

Villagomez died this month at the age of 87.

"I know he is looking down with a

BROADBAND

From Page 1

seven phases.

The contract price is not to exceed \$1,040,322.

The telecommunications project, funded under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act, seeks to create a comprehensive broadband availability map for the CNMI and expand broadband availability to people.

"We will process the notice to proceed immediately and it will be issued next week," Igisomar said.

Lt. Gov. Eloy S. Inos, who signed off on the contact but with notation, said yesterday it will be up to the Department of Commerce to seek federal approval on the sole-source contract.

"Federal agency approval of sole-source procurement recommended," Inos said in a handwritten note below his signature on the independent contractor contract.

Former Commerce secretary and CNMI ARRA state point of contact Michael Ada sought guidance from the attorney general, the procurement director and the public auditor in April 2010 about sole-sourcing the broadband mapping work to One Economy Corp.

Only Procurement and Supply director Herman Sablan responded, after determining that One Economy Corp. "is the only source [that] can carry out the broadband mapping for the CNMI."

Igisomar, the contracting officer and expenditure authority for the grant, said the public auditor was not expected to provide guidance, so was the attorney

smile at the achievement of his daughter," the congressman said. "And certainly the entire Villagomez clan and the Manglona family are beaming with pride as Judge Ramona Villagomez Manglona moves through the confirmation process."

Despite the rapid series of actions in the Senate, the vetting process that preceded took considerable time.

Sablan recommended Manglona to President Obama in December 2009. It took over a year for the White House and the Justice Department to complete their review of her qualifications and personal history before the decision could be made to nominate her for the Federal bench.

Sablan thanked Chairman Patrick Leahy (D-VT) and Ranking Member Chuck Grassley (R-IA) for moving Manglona's nomination swiftly and with bipartisan agreement. (PR)

general.

However, the attorney general's signature was needed for the review and approval as to the form and legal capacity of the contract. Attorney General Edward Buckingham signed off on the contract on March 21.

The Fitial administration "designated One Economy as a special purpose entity" to apply for broadband mapping grants on behalf of the CNMI in April 2009.

But the National Telecommunications and Information Administration came back and said that the CNMI cannot avail of up to \$200,000 in matching fund waiver because One Economy as an SPE-and not the CNMI as an insular area-applied for the broadband mapping grant.

Using the application that One Economy completed, the CNMI applied for the grant to avail of the waiver and was awarded \$1.70 million.

Ada, at the time, said it was not equitable to One Economy to put out to bid any work to be covered under the funding that the CNMI received because not only has One Economy "detailed budget information as they developed the application, but they possess the expertise to carry out the work required by the funding agency."

Igisomar said yesterday they have not received any complaint about the award of the sole-source contract.

"The project needs to be done. They're the most qualified firm," he said.

He reiterated that even American Samoa and Guam used One Economy to carry out broadband mapping.

Accreditation team lauds GTC's achievements, progress

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
moneth_deposa@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Gregorio T. Camacho Elementary School, undergoing a full self-study visit for its six-year accreditation, was praised by a team from the Western

Association of Schools and Colleges for the progress it has achieved thus far.

In a two-page document provided the school, WASC enumerated the school's many areas of strengths, including GTC's leadership and academic

performance.

"The school site leadership, faculty, and staff are to be commended for providing a nurturing, caring and academic setting for all students. The PTA organization, as well as the parents in general and the school com-

munity for the commitment and dedication they exhibit in support of the school," said the visiting team in its exit report.

The school's six-year term accreditation with WASC will expire on June 30 this year.

GTC principal Charlotte Camacho said Thursday that they are optimistic that the school's accreditation will be reaffirmed.

The commission's team visited the school from March 7 to 9 to determine if it deserves to get another full six-year accreditation.

According to the visiting team report, the school's staff has a clear understanding and commitment to GTC's vision and purpose. It also lauded the school's effort in aligning and integrating the Binadu goals with daily instruction and activities for students.

"The site administrator is also to be commended for her collaborative leadership style that permeates the total school culture. This leadership promotes a high level of collaboration among all stakeholders, which positively impacts student learning," the report stated, adding that GTC's leadership team also deserved to be praised for the development of a comprehensive action plan on the learning needs of its students.

"Saipan Tribune learned that the school's action plan was developed as a part of the self-study and assessment data that focuses on the critical areas for follow-up identified by the school and the WASC visiting team.

The plan, according to Camacho, focuses on the critical academic needs of reading, writing, and math, while using formal and informal assessment tools,

communication, curriculum, instructional support, and staff development.

The WASC team noted, however, that the school needs to improve and renovate its facilities.

"The PSS, education board, and site leadership continue to develop and implement long-range plans for allocation of resources and facility improvement. This was a key issue listed from the last full WASC visit and, although it has been partially addressed, is currently ongoing," noted the visiting team.

The school, it said, also needs to develop an articulated and comprehensive system for response to intervention, which includes how students will be identified, what types of interventions will be used, and how student progress will be monitored.



FOOTBALL CLUB DONATION

Shirley's Football Club (Shirley's FC) turns over 10 drums with wood stands to Oleai Elementary School principal Glenn Muña in a ceremony held yesterday morning, April 8, 2011, at the OES field. The drums were painted by the Shirley's FC players. Also in the picture are NMIFA president Jerry Tan, Shirley's FC president Susan Macario, Shirley's FC treasurer Merlie Tolentino, and Shirley's FC general secretary Puy Macario.

Senator Crisostimo, wife sue six persons for retaining wall

Sen. Luis P. Crisostimo (Dem-Saipan) and his wife Maria S. Crisostimo are suing six persons for building a retaining wall around the Crisostimos' land in As Lito.

The Crisostimo couple, through counsel Ramon K. Quichocho, sued Ming Qiang Liang, Su Jie Xian, Yuan Sheng Carwin Liang, Danny Zhou Sheng Liang, and Qiwen Liang.

The couple sued Ming Qiang Liang and Su Jie Xian for unlawful trespass, construction, and encroachment on their two lots.

The remaining co-defendants, who are reportedly now resid-

ing in California, are being sued to resolve any actual or potential claims to the couple's property.

The Crisostimos asked the Superior Court to issue a judgment confirming their title and ownership over the three lots.

The plaintiffs demanded rentals against Ming Qiang Liang and Su Jie Xian for their alleged unlawful use and occupation of the lots.

Quichocho stated in the complaint that on Sept. 19, 2007, Patricia B. Aldan, as grantor, assigned and conveyed to Luis Crisostimo two real properties in As Lito containing an area of 68 and 692 square meters.

On Nov. 2, 2007, Aldan, as grantor, assigned and conveyed to Luis Crisostimo another lot containing 929 square meters adjoining to the two other lots.

Quichocho said that sometime in 2009, Ming Qiang Liang and Su Jie Xian began constructing a building in a lot adjoining to the Crisostimos' three lots.

Quichocho said Ming Qiang Liang and Su Jie Xian also completely destroyed a three-bedroom house and other structures situated on the land.

The lawyer said in June 2009, Ming Qiang Liang and Su Jie Xian used plaintiffs' warehouse space, stored some tools, equipment, and placed two large container vans. (Ferdie de la Torre)

Libraries urged to pursue efficient use of grants

By CLARISSA V. DAVID
clarissa_david@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Joeten-Kiyu Public Library executive director John Oliver DLR Gonzales joined other chief library officers, state library administrators, and grant program coordinators during the Grants to States Conference on March 14 to 16 in Baltimore.

Gonzales said the primary purpose of the conference, held every five years, is to reassess and redirect Library Services and Technology Act grants provided by the Institute of Museum and Library Services to state libraries.

"It was all about budget as the federal government is already on a second extended resolution," he told *Saipan Tribune*

during the proclamation signing of National Library Week 2011 Wednesday morning.

According to Gonzales, the conference impressed upon participants the need to be more efficient and effective in using grant performance evaluations due to the current federal funding situation.

"We need to justify through performance measures why the CNMI deserves to continue receiving federal funding in these trying, challenging times," he said.

Being in a remote location, Gonzales said the Commonwealth is one of the "underserved" communities that benefit a great deal from federal grants, particularly since the

local government also finds it difficult to provide the budget they need.

"IMLS funds are very critical for the CNMI," he added.

According to Gonzales, state libraries have the option to evaluate themselves or employ the services of an external company to conduct the evaluation.

He disclosed that they will choose the latter option "because we feel they're independent, impartial, and will have no conflict of interest in doing the performance evaluation."

"We want to be evaluated constructively to improve our products and services to make it more relevant and responsive to patrons of all demographics," the executive director added.



COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS
NORTHERN MARIANAS HOUSING CORPORATION

PUBLIC NOTICE

This Notice is paid by NMHC with HUD funds.



COMBINED NOTICE OF FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT AND INTENT TO REQUEST RELEASE OF FUNDS

April 9, 2011

Government of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
Office of the Governor
Saipan, MP 96950 Tel: (670) 664-2000 or (670) 234-9447/6866

This notice shall satisfy the above-cited two separate but related procedural notification requirements.

REQUEST FOR RELEASE OF FUNDS

On or after April 26, 2011, the Government of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands will submit a request to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, Honolulu Field Office, for the release of Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Funds under Title 1 of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974 (PL 93-383), as amended, to undertake the following projects and purposes in Saipan and Tinian, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands:

Project/Activity Type	Purpose	Location	Total Project Cost
Carolinian Cultural Center	The Carolinian Cultural Center project will include a single story, reinforced, concrete structure that will serve as an open stage for recreational and cultural events. Project activities will also include an ADA-accessible concrete pathway and male and female restroom facilities.	The project is located at the Carolinian Utt in the village of Garapan, Saipan. The surrounding facilities include the Office of Carolinian Affairs and the Garapan Basketball Court. The project is adjacent to the Duty Free Shopping Center and is nearby Hafa Adai Beach Hotel and the Joeten Shopping Center (Garapan).	\$397,700.00

FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

The Government of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands has determined that the above-listed projects will have no significant impact on the human environment. Therefore, an Environmental Impact Statement under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA) is not required. Additional project information is contained in the Environmental Review Record (ERR) on file at the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation Central Office in Garapan, Saipan and may be examined or copied during regular work hours, Monday through Friday except CNMI or Austerity Holidays, from 7:30 A.M. to 4:30 P.M. The Environmental Assessment for the Tinian Amphitheater was completed on 09/10/07.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Any individual, group or agency disagreeing with this determination or wishing to comment on the projects may submit written comments to the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation, P.O. Box 500514, Saipan, MP 96950 or direct delivery to the central office in Garapan, Saipan. All comments received by April 25, 2011, will be considered by the Government of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands prior to authorizing submission of a request for release of funds. Commentors should specify which part of this Notice they are addressing.

RELEASE OF FUNDS

The Government of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands certifies to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, HUD Honolulu Field Office that the Government of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands and Governor Benigno R. Fitial consent to accept the jurisdiction of the Federal Courts if an action is brought to enforce responsibilities in relation to the environmental review process, and that these responsibilities have been satisfied. The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development HUD Honolulu Field Office acceptance of the certification satisfies its responsibilities under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 and related laws and authorities, and allows the Government of the Northern Mariana Islands to use Program Funds.

OBJECTION TO RELEASE OF FUNDS

The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development HUD Honolulu Field Office will accept objections to its release of funds and the Government of the Northern Mariana Islands certification for a period of fifteen days following anticipated submission date or its actual receipt of the request (whichever is later) only if it is on one of the following bases: (a) the certification was not executed by the Certifying Officer of the Government of the Northern Mariana Islands; (b) the Government of the Northern Mariana Islands has omitted a step or failed to make a decision or finding required by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development regulations at 24 CFR Part 58; (c) the grant recipient has incurred cost not authorized by 24 CFR Part 58 before approval of the release of funds by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development; or (d) another Federal agency acting pursuant to 40 CFR Part 1504 has submitted a written finding that the project is unsatisfactory from the standpoint of environmental quality. Objections must be prepared and submitted in accordance with the required procedures of 24 CFR Part 58 and shall be addressed to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development Honolulu Field Office, 500 Ala Moana Boulevard, Honolulu, Hawaii Suite 3A 96813-4918. Potential objectors should contact the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development to verify the actual last day of the objection period.

/S/ BENIGNO R. FITIAL
Governor

Opinion

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EDITORIAL

Outrages here and afar

When Florida pastor Terry Jones burned the Quran, Islam's holy book, in an Internet-streamed publicity stunt March 20, he surely knew he was igniting more than just paper and ink. More than 20 people, including seven U.N. workers, have been killed in violent protests in Afghanistan sparked by the actions of Jones and his dwindling band of followers.

Last year, Jones threatened to burn the Quran on Sept. 11 to protest a proposed mosque near Ground Zero in Manhattan, but he abandoned those plans at the urging of religious and political leaders, including Defense Secretary Robert Gates. The media went away, and apparently Jones missed the attention. This time, his 30-member church in Gainesville conducted a mock trial of the Quran and set a copy of the book alight, the proceedings streamed live with Arabic subtitles.

He got the reaction he wanted. Outraged crowds in Mazar-e-Sharif, Kandahar and elsewhere rioted in protest. Taliban insurgents reportedly used the riots as cover to mount attacks against Western and Afghan government targets.

That's one of the mixed blessings of the Internet age. The press had largely ignored Jones since he called off his Sept. 11 stunt. But any crackpot with a camera and a laptop can beam a message around the globe, as Jones did. Still, Jones had odd assistance. Why did Afghan President Hamid Karzai draw attention to Jones' stunt several days after the Quran burning? That's a turn still to be developed.

Jones has potentially endangered U.S. troops and made the U.S. military mission in Afghanistan more difficult. Gen. David Petraeus, commander of U.S. and allied forces in Afghanistan, said the Quran burning was "hateful, extremely disrespectful and enormously intolerant."

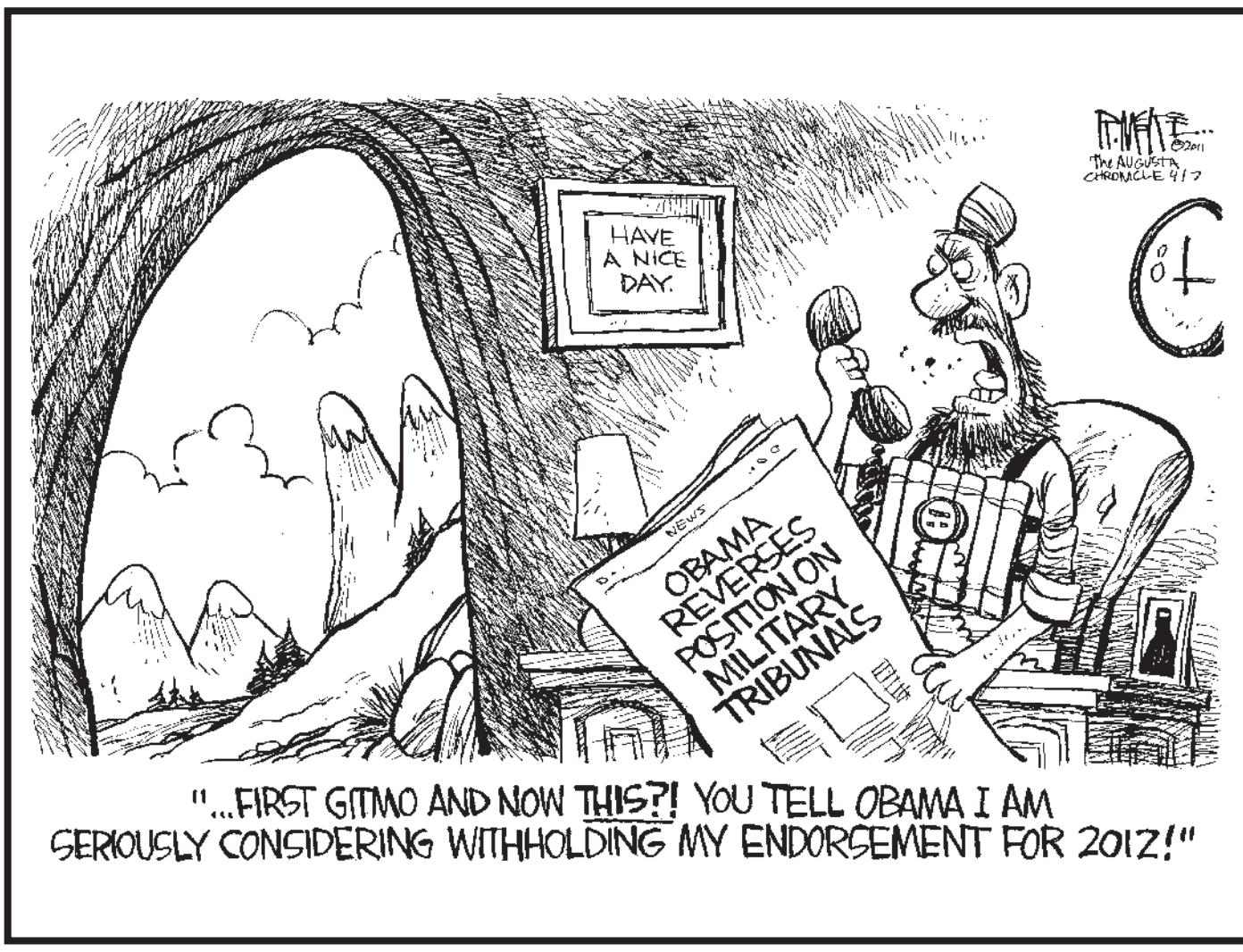
Jones said that Petraeus' remarks were "unconstitutional," proving that everyone in the U.S. enjoys a First Amendment right to spout nonsense about constitutional rights.

Could this situation get even worse? Yes, it could.

Some members of Congress are discussing how to respond to incidents such as the Quran burning. Sen. Lindsey Graham has said that in a time of war, speech that aids America's enemies and endangers troops, such as the burning of a Quran, may need to be curtailed. Shades of the Sedition Act.

It's hard to think of a worse response to this sickening episode than an effort to curb American freedoms because of the vile actions of one preacher.

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Quotables: by Vinson, Cameron, Bing, Madison, Steele

A potpourri of quotations taken from recent reading. ... —**BIOETHICIST WESLEY SMITH**, writing in "First Things": "If it's an arctic freeze, it's global warming. If it's unseasonably mild, it's global warming. If it rains harder than normal, why, that is exactly what we would expect with global warming. Drought? Ditto. Heat wave, well of course, the earth is warming. Neither rain, nor snow, nor hail, nor sleet, nor baking sun, nor hurricanes, nor lack of hurricanes ... can stop some global warming scientists from blaming global warming."

■ **REPUBLICAN CONGRESSMAN KEVIN BRADY OF TEXAS**: "Under President Obama the U.S. has one of the worst budget deficits in the developed world. Our federal debt is exponentially increasing by \$54,373 every second. At this dangerous rate, our debt will be \$18.6 trillion at the end of the president's term — an unimaginable explosion of 75 percent above and beyond the debt accumulated by all of his 43 predecessors combined. America's fiscal future is frightening. We must cut federal spending — every wasted dollar, every low priority program, and every unconstitutional overreach — every day."

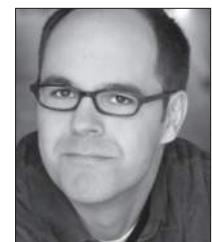
■ **FEDERAL DISTRICT JUDGE ROGER VINSON**, in his opinion finding health-care reform unconstitutional: "In the final analysis, this act has been analogized to a finely crafted watch. ... It has approximately 450 separate pieces, but one essential piece (the individual mandate) is defective and must be removed. It cannot function as originally designed. There are simply too many moving parts in the act and too many provisions dependent (directly and indirectly) on the individual mandate and other health insurance provisions. ... The act, like a defectively designed watch, needs to be redesigned and reconstructed by the watchmaker."

■ **HOMER HICKAM**, former NASA engineer and author ("Back to the Moon"): "What's NASA up to these days? The answer: Not much. In late September, the U.S. Senate arrived at a bipartisan compromise that phased out NASA's space shuttle program and required it to build, by 2016, a new heavy-lift rocket that can carry into orbit at least 70 tons of cargo and a crew capsule. Yet nothing is happening — because President Obama doesn't seem to care if it does. ... (But) how about the moon? It's close, it's loaded with resources, and we can get there with existing technology. Build a station there, like the National Science Foundation's South Pole Station, and invite the world to join us. ... It happened once, it could happen again."

■ **FRENCH PRESIDENT NICHOLAS SARKOZY**, on the development of nuclear weapons by North Korea and Iran: "The people of the entire world are listening to what we're saying, to our promises, our commitments, and our speeches. But we live in a real world, not a virtual world. We say: Reductions must be made. And President Obama has even said, 'I dream of a world without (nuclear weapons).' Yet before our very eyes, two countries are doing the exact opposite."

By ROSS MACKENZIE
McClatchy-Tribune Information Services

Ross Mackenzie is a former editorial page editor at the Richmond (Va.) Times-Dispatch, now retired.



■ **BRITISH PRIME MINISTER DAVID CAMERON**, advocating "muscular liberalism" instead of "hands-off tolerance" of radical Islamist communities in Britain — reflecting comments similar to those of Sarkozy and Germany's Angela Merkel: "A passively tolerant society says to its citizens, as long as you obey the law we will just leave you alone. It stands neutral between different values. But I believe a genuinely liberal country does much more; it believes in certain values and actively promotes them. ... It says to its citizens, this is what defines us as a society: To belong here is to believe in these things."

■ **HECTOR MURGUIA**, mayor of Ciudad Juarez, Mexico — on the drug war in his country that, in his city alone, has claimed 7,100 lives during the past three years: "I can't imagine how the U.S. can be so worried about Iraq and Pakistan while we don't sense that it is worried about the (drug-related problems along the U.S.-Mexico) border here. We are together whether we like it or not."

■ **DETROIT MAYOR (AND FORMER BASKETBALL STAR) DAVE BING**, on the crushing of his city as seen in its collapsed schools, vacant and foreclosed houses, and the loss of 60 percent of its 1950 population: "I am not naive. We are asking people who have lived here for generations to change. But if we don't change, we'll fail — and I don't want to be part of that failure."

■ **SHELBY STEELE, SENIOR FELLOW AT STANFORD'S HOOVER INSTITUTION**: "(President Obama's) policymaking has been grandiose, thoughtless and bullying. His health-care bill was ambitious to the point of destructiveness. ... We have a president so determined to transform and redeem us from what we are that, by his own words, he is willing to risk being a one-term president. People now wonder if Barack Obama can pivot back to the center as Bill Clinton did after his setback in 1994. But Mr. Clinton was already a steward, a policy wonk, a man of the center. Mr. Obama has to change archetypes."

■ **JAMES MADISON** in *Federalist No. 51*, written in 1788: "If men were angels, no government would be necessary. If angels were to govern men, neither external nor internal controls on government would be necessary. In framing a government which is to be administered by men over men, the great difficulty lies in this: You must first enable the government to control the governed; and in the next place oblige it to control itself."

EDITORIAL POLICY

Letters to the editor must include the name, village, address, and contact number of the contributor. Letters that are critical in nature should focus on issues, not personalities. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

Denial of climate change is irresponsible and dangerous

SAN FRANCISCO—My daughter, age 5, is a member. Chances are, so is a youngster you know. In fact, every child on Earth born after June 23, 1988, belongs to what I call Generation Hot. These 2 billion young people will spend the rest of their lives coping with the hottest, most volatile climate that civilization has ever known.

Recently, I went to Capitol Hill with members of Generation Hot (and the Sierra Club, our country's largest grass-roots environmental organization) to confront the politicians whose denials and delay have done so much to land Generation Hot in this predicament. We wanted to know why my daughter and the other 2 billion members of Generation Hot have to suffer because Republicans in Congress refuse to accept what virtually every major scientific organization in the world, including our own National Academy of Sciences, has said: Man-made climate change is happening now and extremely dangerous.

Sen. James Inhofe, the Oklahoma Republican who has famously called climate change "the greatest hoax ever perpetrated on the American people," told our group that "the science is mixed" and his scientists know better than ours. Frank Maisano, a public-relations consultant for big energy companies, told us that "the science doesn't matter"; what matters is what's politically feasible.

"The science does matter," Caroline Selle, a member of our group who works for the Energy Action Coalition, responded in a blog the following day. Selle added: "We face a climate catastrophe that will define our generation and the future of our country, and the solutions to this crisis will create jobs and improve public health. So why aren't we acting? Unfortunately, the answer is simple: Capitol Hill is swarming with 'climate cranks'—politicians willing to trade our future for their own political gain."

It is not political partisanship but journalistic accuracy that compels me to report that the vast majority of climate cranks on Capitol Hill are Republicans. Denial of manmade climate change became a litmus-test issue for the GOP during the 2010 congressional elections; not one new Republican member of Congress now says he or she accepts that human activities are dangerously overheating the planet.

Only in the United States is this seen as unremarkable. Republicans are now the only major political party in the world that still rejects mainstream climate science.

Look at the right-of-center parties now heading the governments of our closest European allies: Britain, Germany, France. None of them has questioned the science behind climate change for more than a decade; they may argue about which policies are best to address the problem, what mix of government regulations and private-sector actions is most desirable, but not one challenges the science.

Indeed, these parties' climate policies are far more aggressive

than those of U.S. Democrats, much less those of Republicans.

I date the beginning of Generation Hot to June 23, 1988, because that is when humanity was put on notice that greenhouse-gas emissions were raising temperatures on this planet and that if emissions weren't reduced humanity's survival would be threatened. The warning came in NASA scientist James Hansen's testimony to the U.S. Senate. When The New York Times printed the news on Page 1, "global warming" became a household phrase in news bureaus, government ministries, business offices, and living rooms the world over.

As a father, it infuriates me that Hansen's warning, and countless subsequent ones, have gone unheeded. Hans Joachim Schellnhuber, the former chief climate adviser to the conservative government of German Chancellor Angela Merkel, agrees. "This was a crime," he told me, referring to Washington's longstanding failure to take serious action against climate-change.

But the wrong people are being punished. The youths of Generation Hot have been condemned to spend the rest of their lives coping with harsher heat waves, stronger storms, deeper droughts, and sea-level rise, while climate change deniers sit comfortably in the halls of government and corporate power.

Our collective failure to act sooner means that we now face a double imperative in the climate fight: We must halt and reverse global warming even as we install protections against the climate impacts that, alas, are unavoidable in the years ahead.

As I report in my new book, "HOT: Living Through the Next Fifty Years on Earth," the somewhat good news is that there are practical solutions to the challenges we face. In fact, cutting-edge leaders in government and civil society are already implementing innovative approaches to both sides of the new climate imperative.

Probably the most far-sighted government official on these matters in the United States is Ron Sims. Now the deputy secretary of the federal Housing and Urban Development administration, Sims spent most of the past 20 years as the county executive of King County, Wash., a municipality that includes Seattle and its environs, including the headquarters of Microsoft, Starbucks and Amazon. Sims insisted for years that his staff "ask the climate question": Ask scientists at the University of Washington what climatic conditions (e.g., temperatures, precipitation, etc.) will pertain in King County in the year 2050 and then, working backward, figure out what measures to take today to prepare for those conditions.

Sims oversaw strengthening of levees, for example, that required a \$40-a-year increase in local taxes. But voters re-elected him afterward, apparently because he made sure to explain that the levee repairs the taxes financed protected the local economy from flooding that would cost an estimated \$46 million a day in foregone sales and deliveries to restaurants, grocery stores, and medical-supply companies.

By MARK HERTSGAARD

The Free Lance-Star (Fredericksburg, Va.)



Mark Hertsgaard (markhertsgaard.com), the environment correspondent for The Nation, is the author of six books, including *Hot: Living Through the Next Fifty Years on Earth*.

Although Sims was a Democrat with a strong commitment to social justice, his argument for taking early action to prepare for climate change was based on tough-minded economics. "We think people and businesses will want to move to King County in the future because we took action to prepare for the world of 2050," he told me. "We're taking steps to make sure we'll have enough water, we'll have levees that don't break, we'll have alternative energy sources."

King County's example has inspired similar efforts on the part of municipal governments in New York City, Chicago and elsewhere.

Overseas, the clear leader in preparing now for climate change is the Netherlands, which is implementing a "Two Hundred Year Plan" to protect itself from climate change, especially sea-level rise and stronger North Sea storms. No, "Two Hundred" is not a typo. Having literally created their country through deft and determined water management, the Dutch take the long view. In the face of climate change, they are now spending more than \$1 billion a year (quite a lot for a geographically small country) and making tough-minded decisions, including forcing residents and businesses to move out of areas that are too dangerous or costly to defend.

Above all, the Dutch are not waiting for disaster to strike before putting protective measures in place. "Start preparing now," Pier Vellinga, the nation's leading climate scientist, said when I asked him what single piece of advice he would offer to Americans. "You are more vulnerable (to climate impacts) and have further to go than you think."

I find the many solutions to climate change described in "HOT" a valuable antidote to the despair that tempts anyone who takes the climate crisis seriously. Knowing that solutions are being put into practice in real places gives me confidence that my own locality, and yours, can do the same.

At the same time, none of these solutions will matter much if we do not break the climate deniers' hold over U.S. government policy. I am stubbornly hopeful about this prospect, especially when I see how fiercely the young people of Generation Hot are willing to fight.

Again, Caroline Selle: "Our future is at stake, and our position is non-negotiable. We need strong climate legislation based on the facts, not the politics, and we need it soon. And we are willing to stand together again and again until our message gets through."

Burying our heads in the sand will encourage new attacks

WASHINGTON—An Army psychiatrist at Fort Hood, Texas, allegedly kills 13 of his service mates. A Pakistani immigrant tries to set off a car bomb in Times Square. An American convert to Islam murders a military recruiter in Arkansas.

Each reportedly subscribed to a radical strain of Islam that, they believed, directed them to defend their faith by killing Americans. These attacks, along with the dozens of home-grown plots we know about, raise obvious questions about dangers that may be emanating from the American Muslim community of 2 million to 3 million people.

That suggests that Rep. Peter King, R-N.Y., who heads the House Homeland Security Committee, was right to launch hearings on "The Extent of Radicalization in the American Muslim Community and That Community's Response." Indeed, despite charges that King is conducting a "witch hunt" that smacks of the worst of McCarthyism, Congress would be derelict if it did not study such matters.

Home-grown threats against America that are fueled by radical Islam are on the rise. Law enforcement officials arrested 22 jihadist suspects from May 2009 to November 2010, compared to 21 in the previous seven years, the Congressional Research Service reported.

Five American-Muslims left Northern Virginia to train with radicals in Pakistan in 2009, while 20 young Somali-Americans left Minnesota that year to join the al-Shabaab Islamist group in Somalia.

Since Sept. 11, 2001, the nation has endured more than 50 home-grown terrorist plots, involving about 130 people. The Wall Street Journal reported—plots to blow up the Brooklyn Bridge, an office building in Dallas, a federal courthouse in Illinois, Washington's Metro mass transit system and the trans-Alaska pipeline. Just last month, a Colorado woman who converted to Islam pleaded guilty in federal court to conspiring to provide material support to terrorists.

While King has taken the heat, top administration officials share his concerns. Homeland Security Secretary Janet Napolitano told Congress last month that plots to attack America increasingly come from U.S. citizens and residents "inspired by al-Qaida ideology," while Attorney General Eric Holder said he increasingly worries about "people in the United States, American citizens."

American-Muslims also are concerned. Sixty-one percent of them said they were very or somewhat concerned about the potential rise of radical Islam in the United States, according to a 2007 Pew Research Center poll.

They may have good reason. Eight percent of American-Muslims say they believe that suicide bombings to defend Islam are at least sometimes justified, the poll found, while 5 percent view al-Qaida favorably—with an additional 27 percent saying they didn't know or refusing to answer.

The concerned Muslim-Americans include Zuhdi Jasser, who founded the American Islamic Forum for Democracy after Sept. 11 out of concerns that Muslim-American leaders were not speaking forcefully enough against radical Islam and the violence it breeds; Zainab al-Suwaij, who founded the Ameri-

By LAWRENCE J. HAAS

American Foreign Policy Council



Lawrence J. Haas is senior fellow for U.S. foreign policy at the American Foreign Policy Council. Readers may write to him at AFC, 509 C Street NE, Washington, D.C. 20002; website: www.afpc.org.

can Islamic Congress after September 11 to, among other things, "champion pluralism and condemn all forms of intolerance"; and Hediye Mirahmadi, who founded the World Organization for Resource Development & Education to strengthen the influence of moderate Muslim thought.

Interestingly, we heard no charges of a "witch hunt" when Sen. Joseph Lieberman, I-Conn., held 14 hearings about home-grown terrorism from 2006 to 2009 as chair of the Senate Homeland Security Committee. Nor did we hear them when Rep. Jane Harman, D-Calif., held several hearings while chairing a House intelligence subcommittee.

King's hearings, by contrast, have attracted criticism due as much to King's blunt language as anything else. But controversy about King should not deter us from the vital job of understanding the home-grown threat that America may face.

If lawmakers ruffle some feathers in their quest to protect the nation, so be it. The issue is too important to avoid.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam Homepage: www.pr.noaa.gov/guam/

The Weather

5-Day Forecast for Saipan and Tinian

TODAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY
Mostly cloudy with isolated showers. Northeast winds 15 to 20 mph.	Mostly sunny with isolated showers. Northeast winds 15 to 20 mph.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.
▲ 87° ▾ 76°	▲ 87° ▾ 76°	▲ 87° ▾ 76°	▲ 87° ▾ 76°	▲ 87° ▾ 76°

Micronesia

Guam and Rota Thundershowers	▲ 85 ▾ 78
Palau	Rain ▲ 85 ▾ 77
Yap	Showers ▲ 84 ▾ 78
Chuuk	Thunderstorms ▲ 84 ▾ 78
Pohnpei	Showers ▲ 88 ▾ 75
Kosrae	Rain ▲ 90 ▾ 77
Majuro	Showers ▲ 86 ▾ 77

Around The Globe

Auckland	Mostly Sunny	▲ 69 ▾ 57
Beijing	Partly Cloudy	▲ 65 ▾ 38
Hong Kong	Partly Cloudy	▲ 74 ▾ 68
Honolulu	Showers	▲ 83 ▾ 72
London	Sunny	▲ 64 ▾ 46
Los Angeles	Partly Cloudy	▲ 61 ▾ 48
Manila	Partly Cloudy	▲ 88 ▾ 75
Melbourne	Showers	▲ 61 ▾ 49
Miami	Mostly Sunny	▲ 88 ▾ 72
New York	Mostly Sunny	▲ 58 ▾ 49
Osaka	Sunny	▲ 65 ▾ 47
Paris	Sunny	▲ 73 ▾ 48
Pusan	Mostly Sunny	▲ 63 ▾ 47
Rome	Mostly Sunny	▲ 73 ▾ 53
Salem	Cloudy	▲ 55 ▾ 46
San Francisco	Partly Cloudy	▲ 61 ▾ 49
Seoul	Showers	▲ 58 ▾ 38
Tokyo	Partly Cloudy	▲ 62 ▾ 51
Washington, DC	Cloudy	▲ 56 ▾ 52

Tides

Saipan Harbor		
5:05 AM	Today	Low Tide: 1.2 Feet
10:05 AM	Today	High Tide: 1.8 Feet
5:35 PM	Today	Low Tide: 0.1 Feet

Sunrise/Sunset

Today		Sunday		Monday		Tuesday		Wednesday	
6:07 AM	6:30 PM	6:07 AM	6:31 PM	6:06 AM	6:31 PM	6:05 AM	6:31 PM	6:05 AM	6:31 PM

Moonrise/Moonset

Today		Sunday		Monday		Tuesday		Wednesday	
9:54 AM	11:16 PM	10:48 AM		11:45 AM	12:07 AM	12:42 PM	12:57 AM	1:40 PM	1:45 AM

GET YOUR PICTURES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS PUBLISHED—FOR FREE

The *Saipan Tribune* accepts for FREE publication the following:

PICTURES

■ **ISLAND SNAPSHOT**
Birthdays, baptisms, christenings, family gatherings, reunions, club activities, and other community-related events.

■ **BIRTHDAY GREETINGS**
A way for families and friends to greet their loved ones, accompanied by a picture of the person celebrating his/her birthday.

■ **BUSINESS**
Corporate donations, volunteer work, promotions, granting of awards, team-building exercises, meetings and other activities by members of the business community.

■ **SAMUT SARI**
Pictures from the islands' Filipino community, primarily focusing on Filipino activities, gatherings, get-togethers, volunteer work, etc.

■ **TRAVELOGUE**
Pictures of off-island travels. Contributors may submit up to 10 pictures for consideration.

■ **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

■ **COMMUNITY BRIEFS**

Announcements of upcoming activities of organizations, community clubs, government agencies, and private companies.

CAMPUS BULLETIN

Announcements of upcoming activities in public and private schools, as well as calendar of activities. May include PTSA meetings, enrollment procedures.

REQUIREMENTS

For pictures:

- Photos should be original and not copyrighted. Contributors must have the right to allow the *Saipan Tribune* to publish the pictures.
- Digital pictures should be high-resolution (minimum of 800kb).
- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when), the name of contact person, and phone number.
- Photos must have been taken in the last two months.
- For birthday greetings, must be submitted no later than 12 noon of the previous day to make it to next day's edition.

For announcements:

- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when),

the name of contact person, and a phone number.

- Must be submitted no later than 12 noon to make it to next day's edition.

HOW TO SUBMIT

- E-mail: editor@saipantribune.com or jayvee_vallejera@saipantribune.com.
- Fax: (670) 235-3740
- Mail: PMB 34, P.O. Box 10001, Saipan, CNMI 96950
- Drop off: 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan

To check if contributions are received, call (670) 235-6397, 235-2440, 235-8747

POLICY

- The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to accept or reject a contribution for publication; the right to edit all contributions, the date of publication, size of the picture, and page placement; and the right to publish contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats.
- The *Saipan Tribune* will decide how often community announcements are going to be published.
- For Travelogue, the *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to choose which pictures to publish.

FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF DECEMBER 16, 2010

DEPARTURES				ARRIVALS			
SAIPAN-GUAM				GUAM-SAIPAN			
C09317	4:25am	5:15am	Daily	C09316	2:45am	3:35am	Daily
C09313	7:55am	8:45am	3, 6	C09596	6:35am	7:25am	3, 6
C09313	8:30am	9:20am	1, 2, 4, 5, 7	C09596	7:00am	7:50am	1, 2, 4, 5, 7
C09601	12:10pm	1:00pm	1, 4, 5, 7	C09600	10:05am	10:55am	1, 2, 4, 5, 7
C09603	3:05pm	3:55pm	1, 2, 4, 5, 7	C09602	1:40pm	2:30pm	1, 4, 5, 7
C09605	6:20pm	7:10pm	Daily	C09604	5:00pm	5:50pm	Daily
C09599	9:30pm	10:20pm	Daily	C09606	8:00pm	8:50pm	Daily
SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT)				NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN			
DL287	6:10am	8:45am	Daily	DL298	10:25am	3:05pm	Daily
DL285	6:40am	9:15am	1, 3, 4, 5, 6	DL286	7:45pm	12:20am+1	2, 3, 4, 5, 7
DL297	4:35pm	7:15pm	Daily	DL288	8:00pm	12:30am+1	Daily
SAIPAN-OSAKA (KIX)				OSAKA (KIX)-SAIPAN			
OZ119	4:00am	6:40am	Daily	OZ120	9:50am	2:20am+1	Daily
SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)				BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN			
OZ608	3:20am	6:50am	1, 4, 5, 7	OZ607	9:10pm	2:20am+1	3, 4, 6, 7
SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)				SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN			
OZ606	2:10am	6:00am	1	OZ603	9:00am	2:20pm	2, 4, 6, 7
OZ606	2:40am	6:30am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7	OZ120	7:10pm	2:20am+1	Daily via KIX
OZ604	3:20pm	7:00pm	2, 4, 6, 7	OZ605	7:40pm		

SCHEDULE OF RELIGIOUS SERVICES

CATHOLIC

Mt. Carmel Cathedral

Sunday Mass: 6am Chamorro, 9am English, 11am Filipino and 6pm English Monday-Saturday: 6am Chamorro Wednesday: 6pm Chamorro Parish office hours: Monday-Saturday 8am-12pm, 12-1pm, 1-5pm

Korean Center

Sunday: 10:30am Wednesday: 10am Thursday-Friday: 8pm Saturday: 3pm and 7:30pm

Kristo Rai Parish

Sunday-Saturday: 6am Wednesday: 6am and 6pm (PH Novena 5:45pm) Friday: 5:30pm praying of Divine Mercy Chaplet; 6pm devotional mass in honor of the Sacred Heart of Jesus. Saturday: 6am and 6pm (anticipated) Sunday Mass: 6am, 8am and 9:30am 6pm Tagalog mass Parish office hours: (Fr. Celso G. Magbanua) Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Saturday 8-11:30am/ 3-5:30pm, Wednesday and Friday 3-5pm. Telephone no. 285-0273

Santa Soledad Mission Parish

Monday: 6pm Tuesday: 6pm Wednesday: 6pm Friday: 6pm Saturday: 6pm (Youth mass/ anticipated Sunday mass) Sunday: 7am and 9am (Children's mass) Parish office hours: Wednesday and Friday: 8-10am, Saturday: 4-6pm Telephone no. 256-4568

Saint Jude Parish

Monday-Friday: 6pm Saturday: 7am Sunday: 6am, 8am, 10am Parish office hours: Monday-Friday 9:30-11:30am, 3:30-5pm Office is close every Thursday and Saturday Telephone no. 288-0007

San Antonio Parish

Monday-Friday 6pm Saturday: 6pm Sunday: 7am, 9am (Blessing of children) Parish office hours: Tuesday-Saturday: 8-11:30am, 2-4:45pm Close on Sunday and Monday

San Francisco de Borja-Rota

Sunday: 6am Chamorro, 8am English Monday and Tuesday: 6am Chamorro Wednesday: 6pm English Thursday: 6am Chamorro Friday: 6am English Saturday: 6am Chamorro, 6pm Tagalog Sunday: anticipated mass

San Isidro-Rota

Sunday: 5am, 8am, 10am Monday-Friday: 7pm Saturday: 5am and 7pm

San Jose (Oleai) Parish

Monday- Saturday: 6am daily mass Monday- Sunday: 3pm Divine Mercy Chaplet Wednesday: 6pm, mass, exposition of the blessed sacrament Saturday: 6pm, anticipated Sunday mass Sunday: 7:30-9am English, 6pm Tagalog mass Office hours: Monday-Wednesday: 9am-12pm, 2-5pm Thursday: day off Friday- Saturday: 8am-12pm, 2-5pm Telephone no. 234-6991

San Roque Parish

Sunday: 7:30am Chamorro, 9am English Monday: 6pm English Tuesday: 6pm English Wednesday: 6pm English- novena mass to our Lady of San Roque oil Thursday: 6pm English

Friday: 6pm English- Devotion to the sacred heart of Jesus (First Fridays) Saturday: 6am English- Our Lady's Saturday mass for the intentions of the Men and Women in military service, 6pm English- anticipated mass Parish office hours: daily except Thursday and Sundays: 4:30-6pm Telephone no. 322-2404, Fr. Bong's cell: 285-912, Diocesan Finance office: 234-3000 ext:143

San Vicente Parish

Monday-Friday: 6pm, Saturday: 6pm (First Saturday of every month) Sunday: 6am anticipated mass, 6pm (Neo Catechumenal community mass), 8pm Sunday: 6am, 9am, 6pm Parish office hours: daily 9-11am Telephone no. 235-8208 or 287-0131

Santa Remedios

Sunday: 8am Monday: 6pm (1st Mondays cemetery masses at 5:30pm) Tuesday-Friday: 6pm Saturday: 6pm-anticipated Sunday mass 8-10pm Parish office hours: Monday-Friday: 8:30am-12pm

PROTESTANT

Born Again Christian

(Upper Room Int'l Ministries), Saipan Wednesday Prayer and Healing Night: 8-10:30pm Saturday Tagalog Service: 8:10-30pm Sunday English Service: 9:30-11am Sunday School for Children: 10-11am Sunday Filipino Service: 7-9pm

Calvary Baptist Church, Saipan

Sunday School: 9am Sunday Morning Worship: 10am Sunday Evening Worship: 6pm Wednesday Prayer Service: 7pm Telephone no. 234-6026/27

Chinese Christian Church of Saipan

Worship Services: Sunday: Chinese and Filipino 9am, English 6pm Bible Study: Wednesday and Saturday 8pm Telephone no. 235-8540

Cornerstone Christian Church, Saipan

Morning Service, Sunday, 10:00 am Evening Service, Sunday, 6:00 pm Children Sunday School, 10:00am/ 6:00 pm Prayer Meeting, Wednesday, 7-9 pm Youth Night of Worship, Friday, 6:30 pm As Perdido Road

Grace Christian Assembly, Saipan

Sunday Worship Service: 9-11am Sunday school/ Children's church 9am (nursery available during Sunday service) GBI Classes: 4-6pm

Episcopal/Anglican Church on Saipan

St. Paul's Episcopal Church Worship Service Sunday: Holy Communion 9:00am Place: Garapan, Plumeria Road, Call 285-6081 for directions

Marianas Baptist Church, Saipan

Sunday Worship Service: 9:10-30am Evening Worship Service: 6-7pm Children Sunday School: 9:10-30am Tagalog Sunday School: 11am-12pm English Sunday School: 11am-12pm Korean Worship Service: 11am-12pm Wednesday Prayer Meeting: English, 7pm-8pm Korean: 8:30pm-9:30pm

Pentecostal Missionary Church of Christ (4th Watch)

Sunday worship: 8:30am Sunday evening: 7:00pm Prayer meeting, every Wednesday 7:30pm San Jose village, after San Jose Hotel Telephone: 789-7566

Iglesia Ni Cristo, Saipan

Wednesday: 7:45pm (English) Thursday: 5:30am (English); 7:45 pm (Tagalog)

Sunday: 6:45am (English) Children Worship Service: Sunday, 9am (English)

Immanuel United Methodist Church

Chalan Kanoa Drive, Chalan Kanoa (east of Town Center and Beach Road, Near Mt. Carmel Cathedral) Worship Service: 9:00am Children's Sunday School: 9:00am Choir Practice: 8:00am Singspiration: 8:30am Prayer, Care & Share: Wednesday 7:00pm Pastor: Millie Carroll 322-6158

Immanuel Methodist Church

(Filipino Congregation) Sunday: 7:00am-Choir Rehearsal 8:00am-Church Service (Tagalog) 9:15am-Sunday School Wednesday: 6:30pm, home group 8:00pm-Prayer Meeting Thursday: 7:30pm-Choir Practice (Church) Saturday: 8:00pm-Choir Practice (Parsonage) (Korean Congregation) Sunday worship: 9am, 10:30, 1pm Wednesday evening service: 8pm Daily morning prayer: 5am

Jesus is Lord Church, Saipan

Sunday English Service: 7:30-9am, Sunday Tagalog Service: 9-11am and 6-8pm, Wednesday: 7:30-9pm

Korean Presbyterian Church, Saipan

Sunday School: 9:20am Sunday Adult: 11am Sunday Evening: 7:30pm Wednesday: 8pm

Life in the Son Christian Fellowship, Saipan

Sunday Worship Service: 10am-12noon Tuesday: Leadership Institute 7pm-10pm Wednesday: Corporate prayer 7pm-8pm Last Friday of the month-prayer: 7pm-11pm Friday: Youth on Fire: 7pm-9pm Tel. No. 235-LIFE (5433)

Marianas Baptist Church, Saipan

English Worship Service: 9:10-30am Evening Worship Service: 6-7pm Children Sunday School: 9:10-30am Tagalog Sunday School: 11am-12pm English Sunday School: 11am-12pm Korean Worship Service: 11am-12pm Wednesday Prayer Meeting: English, 7pm-8pm Korean: 8:30pm-9:30pm

Missions Connection Ministry

Every Sunday Celebrations: 10am (English), 6pm (Tagalog) Wednesday Bible Study: 7pm Youth Impact Friday: 7pm Saturday Prayer Meeting: 7pm

Northern Marianas Christian Church

Sunday Worship Service 10am Fina Sisu Housing FS#1 (Child care will be provided) Friday Services @ 7pm Fina Sisu FS#1 for more info pls. contact Ryan 484-2620

Marianas Bible Fellowship Center

Sunday School: 9:30am Divine Worship: 9:30-11am Evening Service: 7pm-8:30pm Wednesday Prayer Meeting: 8pm-9pm

Pentecostal Missionary Church of Christ (4th Watch)

Sunday worship: 8:30am Sunday evening: 7:00pm Prayer meeting, every Wednesday 7:30pm San Jose village, after San Jose Hotel Telephone: 789-7566

Saipan Christian Church

Sunday: 7:30am-10am Saturday: 7:45pm (Tagalog)

Monday: 8 pm -10pm (Prayer Meeting) Thursday: 8pm-10pm (Cell Groups)

Saipan Church of Christ

Sunday Bible Class: 9am Sunday Worship: 10am Sunday Worship English: 10-11am Sunday Worship Tagalog: 6-7pm Thursday Bible Study: 7pm

Saipan Community Church

(Sunday Services) Palau Service: 7:30am-9am English Service: 10am-11:30am Chuukese Service: 1pm-2:30pm Filipino Service: 5:00pm-7:00pm

Seventh-Day Adventist Church, Saipan

(Saturday Church Services) Sabbath School Program: 9-10am Lesson Study: 10-10:40am Divine Service: 11-12pm Visitation: 3-4pm Adventist Youth Program: 4:30-5:30pm Sundown Worship: 6-7pm

First Baptist Church Koblerville

Sunday services: Sunday school 9:00am Morning worship 10:00am Evening service 6:00pm Wednesday evening bible study 7:00pm

Chinese services

Sunday morning 10:00am Sunday evening 7:00pm

Everyone is warmly welcome to attend our worship services. Transportation is readily available to anyone who needs a ride to our church. Telephone No: 285-4661/2

Thy Word Ministries Saipan

Faith Center Phone 234-0209 New Christian Charismatic Church Service located in Chalan Paio, Beach Road in the Sablan building on the 2nd floor above Subway Sandwiches. Senior Pastors: George & Gail Kamakahi Asst. Pastors: Eric & Penny Sakaguchi

Service Times

Sunday 10:00am Worship Service Sunday 7pm Discipleship Classes Tuesday 10:00am Bible Studies Tuesday 6:00pm Intercessory Prayer Tuesday 7:00pm Music Practice Wednesday 7:00pm Mid-Week Service Saturday 10:00am Evangelism

Upper Room International Ministries

Sunday 5:30am-6:30am Morning prayer 7am-9am English service 7am-9am Sunday school 10am-12noon English service, Koblerville Wednesday 7pm-9pm Prayer meeting Saturday 7pm-9pm Tagalog service Venue: Jason Presbyterian Church Gualo Rai, Saipan

Victory Chapel Christian

Fellowship Church Sunday School: 9:30am Sunday AM Worship: 10:30am Sunday PM Worship: 7:00am Wed Worship: 7:30pm Prayer 45 min. Prior to Service Times Morning Prayer: 6-8am M-S

Victorious Christian Church

(Formerly God's Victorious Army) Sunday 8:30am to 10:30am - Worship Service Monday 7:00 pm - Women's Fellowship Tuesday nights - Home cellgroup Wednesday - 7:30pm to 9:00pm Mid Week Service Friday 7:30pm to 9:00pm Prayer Meeting Saturday nights - Praise and worship practice

Last Friday of the month - Overnight praying meeting Pastor Brendon Perez - Tel# 2359246

Business

Shutdown talks yield no deal as clock ticks

get its act together is just unacceptable," he said. The White House announced he had postponed a scheduled trip to Indianapolis for the morning.

But agreement remained elusive, and Republicans passed legislation through the House at mid-day to fund the Pentagon for six months, cut \$12 billion in domestic spending and keep the federal bureaucracy humming for an additional week. "There is absolutely no policy reason for the Senate to not follow the House in taking these responsible steps to support our troops and to keep our government open," said Boehner.

Obama flashed a veto threat even before the bill passed on a 247-181, mostly party-line vote. The administration issued a statement calling it "a distraction from the real work" of agreeing on legislation to cover the six months left in the current fiscal year, and there was no indication Reid would allow a vote on it.

As they left the White House after the evening meeting, Reid and Boehner issued a brief written statement that said they had narrowed their disagreements and said they would "continue to work through the night to attempt to resolve" the remaining ones.

Shanghai to begin building long-sought Disney park

SHANGHAI (AP)—Walt Disney Co. and its Shanghai partner broke ground Friday for a long-awaited theme park that Disney hopes will draw legions of newly affluent Chinese and provide a cornerstone for its brand in the world's most populous country.

After about a decade's worth of speculation over the plan, Disney CEO Bob Iger and Shanghai dignitaries were attending the groundbreaking ceremony in former farm and factory grounds southeast of the city, where a row of backhoes stood ready.

"Today is the culmination of many years of hard work, dedication and partnership," Iger said. "This is a defining moment in our company's history."

The theme park will cost an estimated \$3.7 billion and Shanghai, China's commercial capital, plans for it to be part of an "international tourism resort" zone located not far from the city's main international airport in Pudong.

The importance of the project was shown by the fact the Communist Party boss for Shanghai, Yu Zhengsheng, was at the groundbreaking along with Han Zheng, the mayor, and Disney executives.

"Disney is a classic urban entertainment brand. This project

Nation

3-2-1-blastoff to space shuttles' last destination

CAPE CANAVERAL, Fla.

(AP)—As the 30th anniversary of the first space shuttle launch draws near, the focus is not so much on the past but the future: Where will the shuttles wind up once the program winds down?

Twenty-one museums and science and visitor centers around the country are vying for one of NASA's three retiring spaceships. They'll find out Tuesday on the 30th anniversary of Columbia's maiden voyage.

Snagging Discovery, Atlantis or Endeavour for display doesn't come cheap. NASA puts the tab at \$28.8 million. Consider that a bargain. Early last year, NASA dropped the price from \$42 million.

One space shuttle is already spoken for—the Smithsonian Institution is getting Discovery, NASA's oldest and most traveled shuttle that ended its flying career last month. It will go to the National Air and Space Museum's hangar in Virginia and take the place of Enterprise, the shuttle prototype used for tests in the late 1970s.

That frees up Enterprise for another museum, so there will be three other winners—a

1-in-7 chance.

NASA Administrator Charles Bolden Jr., a former shuttle commander, is making the final decision, with input from a committee. He'll announce the winners Tuesday while marking the 30-year anniversary at Kennedy Space Center, NASA's launch and landing site, and the front-runner in the nab-a-shuttle race.

The festivities could end up being delayed if the federal government shuts down.

As the big day looms, shuttle suitors are getting anxious and pulling out all the stops.

Even the prime contender, the Kennedy Space Center Visitor Complex, is jittery despite its "knock your socks off" endorsement from NASA's shuttle launch director. The commercially run tourist site wants to suspend the shuttle over visitors, with the payload bay doors wide open as if in orbit and the robot arm outstretched.

"We're extraordinarily nervous. We don't sleep much these days," Bill Moore, chief operating officer for the visitor complex, said this week. "Three of anything in the world, it's going to get awfully competitive.



Before it can go on public display, the shuttle has to be drained of toxic fuel and contaminated plumbing removed. NASA also wants to pull out some pieces for analysis, to help in the development of future spaceships. No main engines will be included; they're available separately to museums for merely transportation and handling costs.

Community officials, from mayors to members of Congress, are making their final pitches to score a shuttle, just over two years after the initial call went out. Plans for exhibition halls are getting grander. Online polls are popping up, as well as online petitions. Astronauts are putting in their two cents' worth.

In Houston, home to NASA's astronaut corps and Mission Control, four widows and one widower of the fallen Challenger and Columbia astronauts are speaking out. They'd like shuttles to go to the Space Center Houston tourist stop next door to Johnson Space Center, Kennedy and the Smithsonian.

For the other bidders, "we suggest that NASA share with them some of the invaluable pieces of the shuttle legacy," the astronauts' spouses wrote in a letter to Bolden.

A main engine or other artifact wouldn't equal a shuttle, but the Tulsa Air and Space Museum and Planetarium in Oklahoma still would embrace it. Curator Kim Jones' dream would be to land Enterprise, which made an appearance in Tulsa in 1979.

ACROSS THE NATION

Deer, goose make unlikely pair in Buffalo cemetery

BUFFALO, N.Y. (AP)—An unusual springtime friendship between a deer and a nesting goose appears to have blossomed inside a cemetery in Buffalo, N.Y. For the past week or so, the deer has been standing near an urn where the goose has taken up residence, positioning itself between the urn and any passing car or foot traffic.

Craig Cygan noticed the unlikely pair during his regular patrols with his goose-chasing border collies. He says there is no mate around the goose and he believes the deer has taken over the job of protecting the nest. Cornell University wildlife expert Paul Curtis says deer and geese usually don't pay any attention to each other.

Scandal-plagued Calif. city swears in new council

BELL, Calif. (AP)—The Los Angeles working-class suburb of Bell has sworn in a brand-new City Council. In March,

outraged residents stormed the polls to kick out the four City Council members accused of looting the city by doling out enormous salaries to themselves. The fifth council member who was not charged lost his bid for re-election. During a nearly hour-long ceremony Thursday, the newly elected officials surrounded by their families took the stage one by one and repeated the oath of office.

Arizona lawmakers OK bill allowing guns on campus

PHOENIX (AP)—A proposal to let people have guns while driving or walking through state university and community college campuses cleared its final hurdle in the Arizona Legislature on Thursday. The House passed the bill on a 33-24 vote, which will send it to Gov. Jan Brewer. The Senate previously approved the measure, after watering it down to no longer allow guns inside campus buildings. But the bill still sparked sharp debate before Thursday's House vote.

Social Security stopping mailed earning statements

WASHINGTON (AP)—

Those yearly statements that Social Security mails out—here's what you'd get if you retired at 62, at 66, at 70—will soon stop arriving in workers' mailboxes. It's an effort to save money and steer more people to the agency's website.

The government is working to provide the statements online by the end of the year, if it can resolve security issues, Social Security Commissioner Michael Astrue said. If that fails, the agency will resume the paper statements, which cost \$70 million a year to mail, he said.

"We'll provide it, we expect,

one way or another, before the end of the calendar year," Astrue told The Associated Press. "We're just right now trying to figure out the most cost-effective and convenient way to provide that to the American public."

The statements, mailed to 150 million people each year, project future benefit payments, helping workers plan for retirement.

The decision to suspend the mailings was unrelated to the talk of a possible partial government shutdown. It was, however, related to the agency's operating budget, which has essentially been frozen

at 2010 levels—minus about \$350 million in economic stimulus money the agency had been using to handle claims.

Advocates for older Americans say they are sympathetic about the agency's budget problems, but several said an online option is insufficient, especially for people who may not have computer skills or access to computers.

"As far as the information being available online, that's not going to help a lot of people we work with," said Max Richtman, executive vice president of the National Committee to Preserve Social Security and Medicare.

"This was a concrete piece of paper, a document that workers would receive that would give them confidence in the program," Richtman said. "Otherwise, they hear a lot of the debate in Washington. It's going to be there; it's not going to be there."

Claims for retirement and disability benefits are up significantly since the nation's economy soured in 2008. About 2.7 million people applied for retirement benefits last year, a 17 percent increase from 2008, according to agency statistics. About 3.2 million people applied for disability benefits last year, a 23 percent increase.

fer. Despite a National Weather Service outlook that calls for a crest range between 39 and 40 feet, potentially one of the top five flood levels on record, Fargo feels ready for the top that may arrive late Sunday.

The city opened its sandbag warehouse on Valentine's Day, its earliest start ever, and 12,600 volunteers filled about 2.5 million bags in three weeks. And though sandbagging started slowly in neighboring Moorhead, Minn., Fargo itself started strong a day later and was on pace to finish on Thursday, ahead of schedule.

To help pay for the work, residents overwhelmingly passed a half-cent sales tax in 2009

modern innovation—and tens of millions of dollars in local, state and federal money.

After close calls in 2009 and 2010, the city has aggressively bought out houses in flood-prone areas, making room for miles of permanent levees and reducing its sandbagging burden from about 3.5 million bags in 2009 to 1.7 million this year.

Fargo has acquired about 75 homes in the last two years. Fargo also has bought more quick-install flood barriers that are less labor-intensive and cover more ground than sandbagging.

To help pay for the work, residents overwhelmingly passed a half-cent sales tax in 2009

Asia

Strong aftershock kills 2

SENDAI, Japan (AP)—A strong aftershock ripped through northeastern Japan, killing two, injuring dozens and piling misery on a region still buried under the rubble of last month's devastating tsunami.

The quake late Thursday was the strongest tremor since the March 11 jumbo and did some damage, but it did not generate a tsunami and appeared to have spared the area's nuclear power plants. The Fukushima Dai-ichi complex—where workers have been frantically trying to cool overheated reactors since they lost cooling systems last month—reported no new abnormalities. Other facilities retained a connection to the grid or switched to diesel generators after the 7.1-magnitude quake knocked out power to much of the area.

Many people in the area have lived without water and electricity for nearly a month, and the latest tremor sunk more homes into blackness: In total, around 3.6 million households—about 60 percent of residents in the area—were dark Friday, said Souta Nozu, a spokesman for Tohoku Electric Power Co., which serves northern Japan.

Five conventional plants in the area were out, and it was not clear when power would be restored, he said.

Matsuko Ito, who has been living in a shelter in the small northeastern city of Natori since the tsunami, said there's no getting used to the terror of being awoken by shaking.

"I was almost as scared as much as last time," said the 64-year-old while smoking a cigarette outside. "It's enough."

She said she started screaming when the quake struck around 11:30 p.m.

"Something has changed," she said. "The world feels strange now. Even the way the clouds move isn't right."

Thursday's quake initiated a tsunami warning of its own, but it was later canceled. Two people were killed, fire department spokesman Junichi Sawada reported Friday. A 79-year-old man died of shock and a woman in her 60s was killed when power was cut to her oxygen tank. More than 130 people were injured, according to the national police agency.

The tremor's epicenter was in about the same location as the original 9.0-magnitude tremor, off the eastern coast and about 40 miles (65 kilometers) from Sendai, an industrial city on the eastern coast, according to the U.S. Geological Survey. It was strong enough to shake buildings

Toyota to resume production at all Japan plants

TOKYO (AP)—Toyota Motor Corp. says it will resume car production at all Japanese plants from April 18 to 27.

The world's No. 1 automaker said Friday that all of its 18 plants in Japan will operate at limited capacity due to parts shortages.

The March 11 quake and tsunami crippled auto parts suppliers in northern Japan and caused severe parts shortages.

The disasters forced Toyota to halt production in Japan from March 14 to 26.

for about a minute as far away as Tokyo, about 200 miles (330 kilometers) away.

At a Toyota dealership in Sendai, most of a two-story show window was shattered, and thick shards of glass were heaped in front of the building. Items fell off store shelves and a large automated teller machine crept across the floor at a FamilyMart convenience store.

Police directed cars through intersections throughout the city on Friday because traffic lights were out. Small electrical fires were reported.

While the city is far enough inland that it largely escaped tsunami damage, people there lived without regular services for weeks. Within an hour of Thursday's quake, they rushed convenience stores and cleared shelves of ice, water and instant noodles - items that were in short supply after the bigger quake.

The operator of the tsunami-ravaged Fukushima Dai-ichi plant said there was no sign the aftershock had caused new problems there. Workers briefly retreated to a quake-resistant shelter in the complex and suffered no injuries.

After the March 11 quake knocked out power in the region, the wave flooded the plant's diesel generators, leaving the complex without any electricity. Workers have been struggling to stem a tide of radiation since, using makeshift methods to pump cooling water into the reactors. That work continued uninterrupted after the latest quake, according to Japan's Nuclear and Industrial Safety Agency.

radiation levels in the rain were low and posed no health threat. Still, officials said that 126 schools in Gyeonggi province, near the capital, Seoul, shut down and 43 others shortened class hours as a precaution. The Ministry of Education, Science and Technology said only a few schools outside Gyeonggi canceled classes Thursday.

Hunger strike focuses anger on Indian corruption

NEW DELHI (AP)—A 73-year-old Indian activist harnessing the tactics of Mohandas K. Gandhi has galvanized public anger at rampant corruption with a high-profile hunger strike demanding the government adopt immediate reforms. Anna Hazare's fast, which entered its third day Thursday, has drawn breathless, round-the-clock TV coverage, attracted the support of an array of opposition—and even some ruling party—politicians and has sent the government scrambling in search of a compromise. Hazare has said he will continue to consume nothing but water until India's parliament agrees to create a powerful, independent watchdog committee to investigate corruption allegations.

ASIAN BRIEFS

Nitrite, perhaps in milk, kills 3 Chinese children

BEIJING (AP)—Official media say three children have died from nitrite poisoning after drinking milk from two dairies in northwestern China. Thirty-five others, mostly children, were sickened and are being treated. The website of Pingliang News, a city government newspaper in Gansu province, said Friday one of the patients is in critical condition. It said the dairies have been sealed off while their managers are investigated. A staffer surnamed Huang at the city's Communist Party news office says authorities have asked food and health experts to determine the source of the nitrite.

Some SKorean schools shut amid radiation fears

SEOUL, South Korea (AP)—More than 100 South Korean schools have canceled or shortened classes over fears that rain falling across the country may include radiation from Japan's stricken nuclear plant. The Education Office of Gyeonggi province said it allowed schools to decide whether to open Thursday. The prime minister's office said

World

BRAZIL SCHOOL SHOOTING

12 children killed, 12 hurt

RIO DE JANEIRO (AP)—A gunman roamed the halls of an elementary school in Rio de Janeiro on Thursday and killed 12 children, lining them up against a wall and shooting them in the head at point-blank range as he shouted, "I'm going to kill you all!"

It was the worst school shooting in Brazil—and would have been deadlier if the gunman had not been shot in the legs by a police officer, who said the man then fell down some stairs and shot himself in the head.

Images taken with a cell phone and posted on YouTube showed students fleeing wildly, screaming for help, many with their white and blue school shirts soaked in blood.

Rio de Janeiro state's Secretariat of Health and Civil Defense said in a statement on its website that at least 12 other students were injured, many by gunfire, and taken to hospitals. At least two were in grave condition. Officials earlier reported 18 injured.

The dead included 10 girls and two boys, plus the gunman, according to the Health and Civil Defense department. Those killed were between the ages of 12 and 15. One of the boys died at a hospital about 12 hours after the shooting.

"He came in shooting," said Andreia Machado, recounting what her 13-year-old daughter, Thayane, told her before going into surgery.

Thayane was hit by three bullets and lost feeling in her legs because one hit her spine, said her mother. Crying as she spoke, Machado wondered if her daughter would ever be able to return to school—or walk.

"She's such an active child," she said. "That's the biggest fear I have, her not being able to walk again. But we have to trust in God."

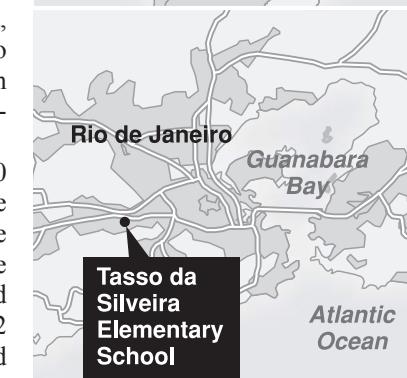
The gunman was identified as 23-year-old Wellington Oliveira, who had once attended the Tasso da Silveira school in a working-class neighborhood in western Rio.

No motive was known, but authorities said the shooter left a rambling and mostly incoherent letter at the scene indicating he wanted to kill himself.

The letter also explained in detail how Oliveira

School shooting

At least 13 people, including the gunman, are dead after a shooting at an elementary school.



Source: ESRI, AP

© 2011 MCT

Rio is a city rife with drug-gang violence in its vast slums, but school shootings are rare. The gunman had no criminal history, Rocha told a news conference.

About 400 people were inside the school when the shooting began about 8:30 a.m. local time (7:30 a.m. EDT, 1130 GMT). The school serves grades one through eight.

"What happened in Rio is without a doubt the worst incident of its kind to have taken place in Brazil," said Guaracy Mingardi, a crime and public safety expert at the University of Sao Paulo.

Jade Ramos, a student at the school, said the gunman repeatedly yelled "I'm going to kill you all!"

"He had already killed a lot of children in the first floor and in the yard," she told the Globo television network. "He kept telling the kids to face the wall and was shooting at their heads. The children kept begging, 'No, please!' There was a lot of blood, children agonizing on the stairs."

Gadhafi's pilots and exposed holes in NATO's efforts to ground Libyan warplanes.

Missile from Gaza hits Israeli school bus; 2 hurt

JERUSALEM (AP)—An anti-tank missile fired from the Gaza Strip struck a school bus in southern Israel Thursday, wounding two people, one of them critically, and prompting fierce Israeli retaliation that killed five Palestinians. Israel unleashed airstrikes and tank fire against Hamas targets across the border in the heaviest assault on the coastal territory since a broad military offensive two years ago. Besides the dead, more than 30 Palestinians were wounded, said Palestinian health official Adham Abu Salmiya. He said one of the dead was a 50-year-old civilian who was sitting outside his home when he was struck by tank fire. Three others were militants killed near the southern Gaza town of Rafah. The fifth man was a Hamas policeman.

Maharlika

PINOY LIFE IN THE MARIANAS

Saturday, April 9, 2011

UFO welcomes new officers for 2011-2012

By CLARISSA V. DAVID
clarissa_david@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Coming together is a beginning. Keeping together is progress. Working together is success."

Bong Malasarte, the 11th president of the United Filipino Organization, shared this truism after being officially installed during the induction ceremony held at the Taga Hall of Saipan World Resort last April 2.

UFO officers and members, along with family members, friends, and guests, were clad in traditional barong and Filipiniana attires to witness the ceremony officiated by Consul General Medardo Macaraig.

Other officers who will be serving two-year terms—from 2011 to 2012—for the umbrella organization of some 30 Filipino groups on island were Hector Sevilla, VP administration; Paul Madriaga, VP internal; Fernando Enano, VP external; Jun Liberato, secretary; Yolly De Ramos, assistant secretary; Evelyn Deazeta, treasurer; Lyn Dela Cruz, assistant treasurer; Antonio Soriano, auditor; Char-

lie Centena, Donato Galvez, and Joel Dupra, PRO.

Fr. Celso Magbanua led the invocation while Annamae Adaza and Melvin Malvar served as emcees.

In his remarks, Malasarte said the UFO was conceived through the great efforts and noble aspirations of the leaders of these member organizations, each having its own goals, ideals, and dedication for the betterment of the Filipino community in the CNMI.

"I shall ask for nothing but the utmost cooperation of each and every member of this organization," he added.

Malasarte said the newly inducted officers will carry on the activities of UFO, including *Pistang Pinoy*, participation in the annual Good Friday trek to Mt. Tapochau, the Inter-Organizational Basketball League, and its involvement in the seminars



Bong Malasarte, United Filipino Organization's 11th president, delivers his remarks during the induction ceremony held at the Taga Hall of Saipan World Resort last April 2.



Advisers of the United Filipino Organization are inducted by Consul General Medardo Macaraig.



CLARISSA V. DAVID

The 2011-2012 officers of the United Filipino Organization take their oath from Consul General Medardo Macaraig.

'Filipinos help build economies'

By CLARISSA V. DAVID
clarissa_david@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Filipino professionals have helped build economies around the world, including that of the CNMI, with their talents and skills, according to businessman Jerry Tan.

"I've seen how the expertise of Filipino professionals helped build the economy of the CNMI, Guam, and other parts of the world. I want to acknowledge their contributions," said Tan during the induction ceremony of the 2011-2012 officers of the United Filipino Organization on April 2.

Tan, who was born and raised in Hong Kong, said he is personally very close to Filipinos and has a lot of Filipino friends. "I can say that I'm half-Filipino," he quipped.

With over 11,000 of their employees around the world coming from the Philippines, Tan said Filipinos have significantly impacted Tan Holdings as some of them have been working for the company for many years.

"We have quite a few who have contributed to our company and helped us grow," said Tan.

He noted, however, that most Filipinos leave their country since they do not have many opportunities back home.

"Because of my very close ties to the Philippines, it is really my wish to see that one day, Philippines will be prosperous like China, that Filipinos do not need to leave their country. If they leave, it's because they want to, not because they have to," he said.

According to Tan, living on foreign soil is "never really fun." "There is discrimination. There is no place like home," he added.

Tan encouraged the Filipino community to have a strong desire to get into business and help



CLARISSA V. DAVID

Tan Holdings president Jerry Tan speaks during the induction ceremony of the 2011-2012 officers of the United Filipino Organization on April 2 at the Royal Taga Hall of Saipan World Resort.

their own economic growth.

"Go into business. Make yourself rich because you really have the talent to do that," he said.

Tan also challenged UFO officers and members to give back to the community, which has become their home for many years.

"I encourage you to be active in the community in order to gain respect. ... Collectively, you can make a difference," he said.

Tan pledged to continue his support to the UFO so it can carry on with its worthwhile projects. "I always do my best to help," he added.

and trainings of the Consulate.

In addition, Malasarte said UFO will have a disaster emergency drill to be spearheaded by MDX Amateur Radio Club to train all UFO members on preparing for disasters and emergencies.

He emphasized the need to focus on a strong strategic organization. "This will [show] we are an organization strong on teamwork and an organization on the move," said Malasarte.

He also acknowledged the leadership of Olive Yana, UFO's previous president, who made possible the group's present success.

Certificates of appreciation were handed out to various individuals who supported Yana's leadership.

'Challenging times'

For her part, Yana thanked the sponsors and supporters of UFO from 2009-2010 for making their term "very productive and life enriching."

Yana congratulated the new officers, directors, and advisers and reminded them about the challenging times ahead as many people all over the world cry for help.

"Being in [a] big organization such as UFO, you are at the forefront of that big opportunity to do so. Serving others is a great opportunity for everyone of us to give back to God through his people the blessings we have received," she said.

See UFO on next page



United Filipino Organization officers led by Bong Malasarte present a check worth \$500 to NMI Japan Disaster Relief's Nick Nishikawa and Masanori Takahashi yesterday afternoon at the Hyatt Regency.

UFO donates \$500 to Japan relief efforts

By CLARISSA V. DAVID
clarissa_david@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The United Filipino Organization expressed its support for the Japanese community by making a donation to the relief efforts for the victims of the earthquake and tsunami devastation last month.

Newly inducted officers, led by Bong Malasarte, presented a check worth \$500 to NMI Japan Disaster Relief's Nick Nishikawa and Masanori Takahashi yesterday afternoon at the Hyatt Regency.

Other UFO officers who joined Malasarte during the presentation were auditor Tony Soriano, VP internal Paul Madriaga, advisers Neli Atalig and Olive Yana, Annamae Adaza, and PRO Charlie Centena.

Malasarte, in an interview,

said the amount was raised by their group through the solicitations they made for the souvenir program for the 2011 Induction of Officers held on April 2 at the Taga Hall of Saipan World Resort.

He said part of the amount also came from the ticket sales for the raffle drawing held during the event.

"In our small way, we've demonstrated our support for the Japanese community. *Mas maganda ng tayo ang tumutulong kesa tayo ang tinutulungan*," Malasarte told *Saipan Tribune*.

Takahashi thanked the UFO and the various organizations in the community that have provided assistance to NMI Japan Disaster Relief for all the victims who continue to suffer because of disaster.

"In Japan, the work is not yet finished. I hope they continue to help us," said the PDI general manager.

Nishikawa, who also chairs the Japanese Society of NMI, expressed his "heartfelt appreciation" to UFO.

"We will continue with our fundraising events with HANMI and JSTA until June," he said.

These events, Nishikawa said, include a booth during the Taste of Marianas in May and the HANMI Charity Golf Tournament in June, the proceeds for which will all go to the disaster relief efforts.

Nishikawa said they are constantly communicating with Japan Consul Tsutomu Higuchi, adding that they plan to do their first presentation of donations they have received to the Consular Office soon.



Consul General Medardo Macaraig and TanHoldings president Jerry Tan are flanked by the newly inducted officers of United Filipino Organization last April 2.

Consul General Macaraig concurred about the difficult circumstances that the new officers and the Filipino community are facing, with the devastation in Japan and the tragic fate of the three Filipinos in China, who were executed after being convicted of being drug mules.

"It is not easy for us to accept that, but then we must move on," he said.

Macaraig said the Consulate is "preparing for the worst" pending the apprehension brought by the non-release of the transitional worker rules and regulations here in the CNMI, urging all Filipinos to plan for the future.

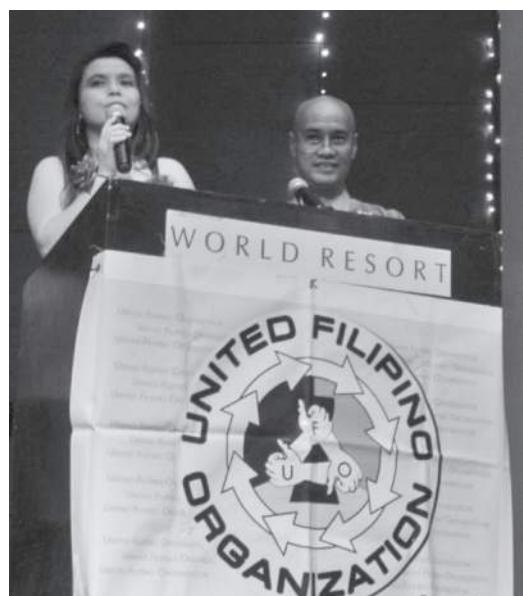
"Don't blame us for preparing for the worst because that's the only thing we can do at this moment," he said.

Macaraig added that the Consulate, the Philippine Overseas Labor Office, and the Overseas Workers Welfare Administration, through labor representative Carmelina Velasquez, are working on promoting the reintegration program for all Filipinos in the CNMI.

"We shall continue to cooperate with the UFO to make lives easier and more meaningful for our *kababayans* here on Saipan and the rest of the Northern Marianas as well as for our friends, the local residents who are here, and everyone who calls Saipan home," he said.



Family members and friends of Bong Malasarte, left, pose for the *Saipan Tribune* after the induction ceremony.



Annamae Adaza and Melvin Malvar serve as the emcees.



Former UFO president Olive Yana and 2011-2012 president Bong Malasarte.



Consul General Medardo Macaraig receives his certificate of appreciation from former UFO president Olive Yana and Nelida Atalig.



Labor representative Carmelina Velasquez, right, is joined by Olive Yana and Nelida Atalig on stage.

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Philippine ex-president's son faces tax evasion charges

By NIKKO DIZON
PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

MANILA, Philippines—No one is untouchable any longer.

As the Bureau of Internal Revenue itself put it, it is using the Al Capone method to nail a son of former President Gloria Macapagal Arroyo for tax fraud.

In a move unthinkable for the agency during the nine-year Arroyo administration, the BIR Thursday charged Ang Galing Pinoy party-list Rep. Juan Miguel "Mikey" Arroyo and his wife, Angela, with evading taxes.

Under the net worth method, tax investigators add up all assets of a subject and subtract all his or her liabilities to calculate the net worth.

BIR Commissioner Kim Jacinto-Henares said the Arroyo couple were found to have a tax liability of at least P73.85 million, including surcharges and interest.

From 2003 to 2009, Arroyo, who, incredibly, represents the party-list group of security guards and tricycle drivers, and his wife either failed to file their income tax returns or underdeclared their income, Henares said at a press conference at the Department of Justice where the BIR filed a case against the couple.

A BIR comparison of the couple's net worth and reported taxable income "using the net worth method first employed in the US against gangster Al Capone" showed a substantial underdeclaration of income of more than 30 percent in 2004, 2006 and 2007, a BIR statement said.

Under the Tax Code, an underdeclaration of taxable income of more than 30 percent is considered a *prima facie* evidence of fraudulent return.

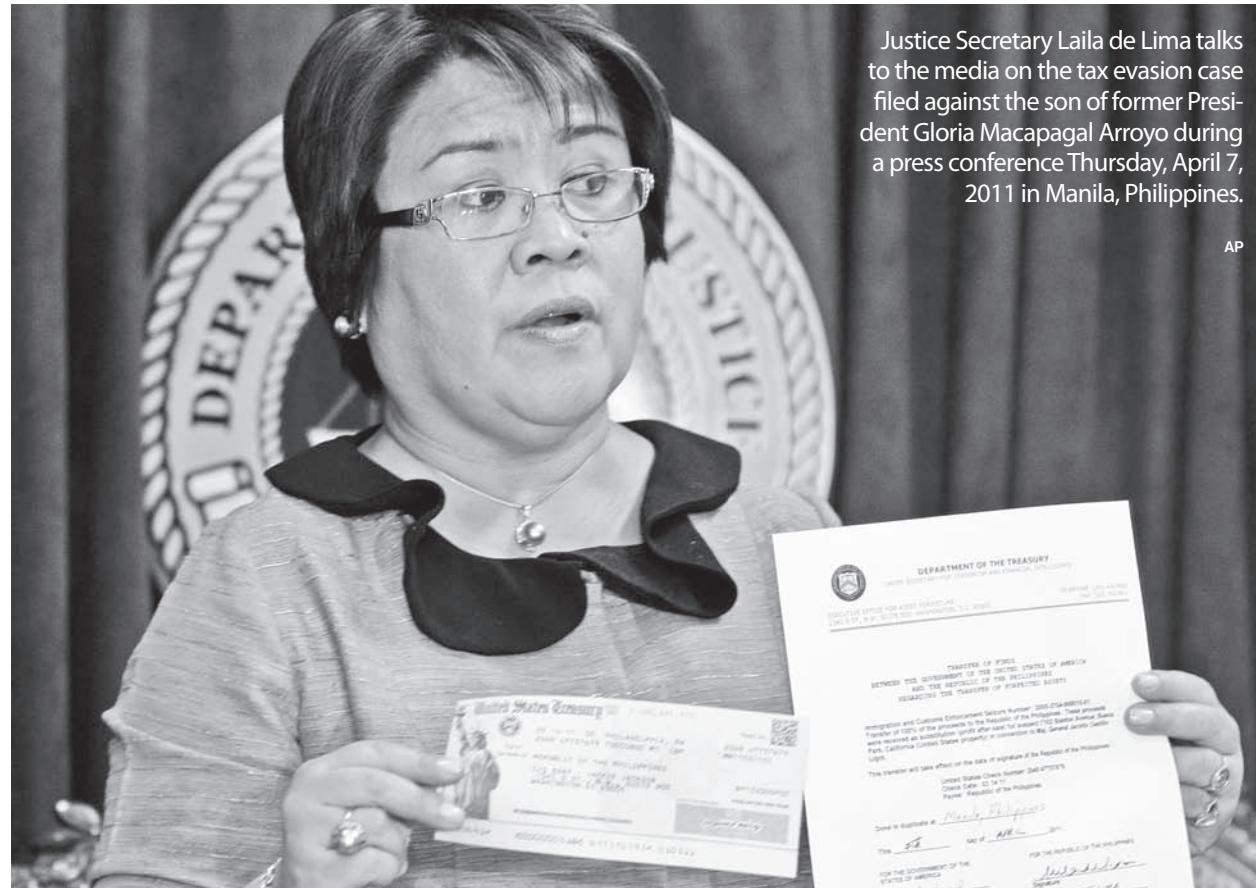
Capone was imprisoned for good not because of criminal activities in the 1920s like bootlegging, bribery of Chicago officials and killings of rivals, but because of tax evasion.

Tips from informants

Henares said tips from informants prompted the BIR to investigate the Arroyo couple using the net worth method.

The BIR used the statements of assets, liabilities and networth of Arroyo when he was Pampanga vice governor in 2002 and when he was Pampanga congressman from 2004 to 2009.

His net worth rose from P50,000 in 1993 to P5.72 million in 2001, the year he was elected vice governor. His net worth soared to P76.5 million in 2004



Justice Secretary Laila de Lima talks to the media on the tax evasion case filed against the son of former President Gloria Macapagal Arroyo during a press conference Thursday, April 7, 2011 in Manila, Philippines.

AP

Mikey Arroyo: It's pure harassment

MANILA, Philippines (Philippine Daily Inquirer)—Ang Galing Pinoy Rep. Juan Miguel "Mikey" Arroyo described as "pure political harassment"

the tax evasion cases that the Bureau of Internal Revenue filed against him and his wife Angela in the Department of Justice.

The case stemmed from the couple's alleged failure to file income tax returns from 2003 to 2009.

The BIR said the two had a total tax liability of at least P73.85 million, inclusive of surcharges and interest.

"I am not against the government filing cases against supposed tax evaders. What I am questioning here is the lack of due process being employed by the administration," Arroyo said in a press statement.

and to P99.2 million in 2009.

"Based on the information and documents gathered during (the BIR) investigation, it was disclosed that Mr. and Mrs. Arroyo were able to acquire real, personal and other properties for the years 2004 to 2009, which are worth several millions," the BIR complaint said.

Among these assets were residential houses (in Lubao, Pampanga province,

Arroyo, elder son of former President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo, said he received a notice of audit from the BIR only two days ago. In the notice, he said he was given 10 days to submit some documents deemed necessary in the case.

Coming to the defense of the congressman, Sen. Juan Miguel Zubiri wondered why President Benigno Aquino III was targeting only Arroyo administration officials.

Zubiri said Mr. Aquino should also go after his own allies. "They filed a case against Pichay. They filed a case against Mikey. It seems that there is a perceived harassment against the previous administration," the senator said.

The BIR filed a graft case on Wednesday against Pichay, head of and in La Vista subdivision in Quezon City), vehicles, shares of stock, jewelry, clothes and other personal effects that Arroyo enumerated in his SALNs.

Wedding gifts

Henares said the gifts the couple received when they got married were also subject to taxes. Arroyo wed Angela Arroyo Montenegro, his second

the Local Water Utilities Administration, in connection with a bank deal.

Secretary Ricky Carandang of the Communications Development and Strategic Planning Office said the administration was investigating cases of corruption that it uncovered.

"It does not begin with an individual from the last administration being specifically targeted. It begins with the discovery of an anomaly and then an investigation of that anomaly," Carandang said.

"And when the investigation leads to certain individuals, that becomes the consequence," he added.

Presidential spokesperson Edwin Lacierda said the Aquino administration was not targeting the former First Family in its drive against corruption.

cousin, in 2002.

Embroiled in a controversy in 2009 about his and his wife's real estate purchases in the United States, Arroyo claimed that campaign contributions and wedding gifts were partly the reason for the substantial increase in his net worth.

It was reported in 2009 that Arroyo did not declare in his SALN in 2007

sharks, "paluwagans," etc. Therefore, permanent short-term debt should be included in the computation of the current ratio.

So let's say you have short-term assets worth P100,000. You also have permanent short-term debts amounting to P20,000. This means that in worst-case scenarios where you max out your credit limit, you can only add a maximum of P80,000 to your debt for your current ratio to be at least 1 times. You can thus get only so many credit cards that will give you a total credit limit of P80,000.

So the next time you are offered a credit card, think about how much potential short-term debt you can still incur so that the total will not go over the size of your short-term assets. This will tell if you should get that additional card or not.

*Efren LL. Cruz is a registered financial planner with the RFPI USA. He is author of the bestselling books, *Pwede Na! The Complete Pinoy Guide to Personal Finance* and *Pwede Na! The Complete Pinoy Guide to Retirement & Estate Planning*. He is chairman and CEO of Personal Finance Advisers Philippines Corp. Questions about the article may be emailed to efren@personalfinance.ph.*

How many credit cards should a person have?

By EFREN LL. CRUZ
PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

QUESTION: What is the ideal number of credit cards that an individual should maintain?

QIn this day and age, credit cards are probably as ubiquitous as cell phones. And just like cell phones, people tend to have more than one credit card. The question is how many credit cards is enough. The answer is as many as you can on the condition that the sum total of your credit card limits and whatever "permanent" short-term debts (not sourced from credit cards) you carry is equal to or smaller than your short-term assets.

Now before you grab a tissue to wipe off that nosebleed, let's attempt to "laymanize" matters. The financial health of an individual is measured in almost the same way as that of a company. And one of the tools used in checking financial health is the current ratio. Simply put, the current ratio measures the capacity of your short-term assets to pay off your short-term debts, assuming there will be no other source of cash to do so (e.g. like your salary).

There is now a "new normal" to the world, that of volatility. Gyration in economic conditions have rocked the world since the 1990s. And such volatility has many times led to significant cost-cutting and job loss. Current ratio helps in determining whether you will have enough short-term assets to liquidate your short-term debts in case of a loss of job or a significant loss to your business.

Credit cards are good for providing standby money in case of emergencies. However, such standby money is borrowed money. Credit cards give easy access to short-term loans. This easy access can lead to maxed out credit limits especially in situations of dire need. And if you have more than one credit card, such maxed out credit limits can make your short-term debts balloon to amounts much larger than your short-term assets, thus making you illiquid.

Credit card balances are not the only component of short-term debts. There are also some borrowings that are perennially outstanding, which can be called permanent short-term debts. These are debts that are paid and then immediately re-availed because funds are simply not enough to sustain current living needs. Examples would be borrowings from parents, lending institutions, loan

Western Union eyes harnessing OFW money for community dev't

► PHILIPPINE BRIEFS

Philippine forces kill 9 suspected gangsters

MANILA, Philippines (AP) — A military spokesman says Philippine police and soldiers trying to serve an arrest warrant have killed nine suspected gang members in a shootout. Two police officers also were wounded in the gunbattle Thursday on an island in Zamboanga Sibugay province in the restive southern Philippines. The gunmen have been linked to extortion, murders and kidnappings. Regional military spokesman Lt. Col. Randolph Cabangbang said Friday that troops were sent to arrest suspected gang leader Kamsa Asdanal but he and other gunmen opened fire. Cabangbang says nine suspects were killed but it's unclear if Asdanal is among them. Identification is difficult because the bodies were burned in a fire following the gunfight.

Filipino drug mule suspect arrested in Indonesia

MANILA, Philippines (AP) — Indonesian authorities have arrested a Filipino woman who allegedly attempted to smuggle heroin at a Central Java airport. The arrest came days after China executed three drug traffickers from the Philippines. The Department of Foreign Affairs said Thursday that the woman came from Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia and was caught April 3 with more than two pounds (one kilogram) of heroin at the Adi Sumarmo Airport in Solo. The department says the woman allegedly was paid \$8,000 by an international drug syndicate to carry the heroin into Indonesia. Philippine officials repeated a warning to Filipinos who work abroad not to carry packages from people or accept offers from drug syndicates. The Philippines is one of the world's largest labor exporters.

Philippines, Vietnam vow peace in South China Sea

MANILA, Philippines (AP) — The Philippines and Vietnam have pledged not to resort to force to resolve territorial disputes in the South China Sea. They called for a legally-binding code to prevent clashes in the region. The Philippines' Department of Foreign Affairs said Thursday that the countries expressed their position when Foreign Secretary Albert del Rosario met Vietnamese Prime Minister Nguyen Tan Dung in Vietnam earlier this week. Both countries have had territorial spats with China over the Spratly and Paracel island chains in the region, believed to be rich in oil and gas. The other claimants are Brunei, Malaysia and Taiwan. The Association of Southeast Asian Nations signed a 2002 nonbinding accord with China to prevent clashes in the vast region.

US turns forfeited funds over to Philippines

MANILA, Philippines (AP) — The United States has turned over to the Philippines \$132,000 from forfeited U.S. property belonging to a retired Filipino general embroiled in a multimillion-dollar corruption scandal. It is the first time the U.S. government has transmitted to the Philippines money linked to corruption in a forfeiture case. U.S. Ambassador Harry Thomas said Thursday that the case is a sign of confidence in President Benigno Aquino III's administration, which has taken steps to battle corruption. Former military budget officer Jacinto Ligot is among several retired officers investigated by the Senate for allegedly pocketing government funds and buying U.S. property. Ligot is also facing graft and tax evasion charges.

6,500 Marcos victims get compensation, says US lawyer

MANILA, Philippines — About 6,500 Filipino rights victims of late dictator Ferdinand Marcos have received compensation, a lawyer of the claimants said Friday. Robert Swift, counsel of the victims who filed a class suit against Marcos in the United States, where the ousted dictator fled and eventually died, said the checks amounted to P43,200 each for 85 claimants. "That 85 percent of the claimants who appeared on short notice is testament to how meaningful the compensation is to them and their families," Swift said at a press briefing Friday. "Under the difficult circumstances presented, an 85 percent success rate is a home run." Rod Domingo, another lawyer, said 1,000 human rights victims have yet to receive their checks. He said they would notify the intended beneficiaries in the second phase of distribution starting Monday. (*Philippine Daily Inquirer*)

By DORIS DUMLAO
PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

MANILA, Philippines — Global remittance giant Western Union has bankrolled a pioneering project that seeks to channel collective funds from overseas Filipinos for local development, picking the province of Ilocos Norte and the city of Taguig as its two pilot sites.

The two-year project was launched as a partnership among the United Nations Development Program, the Philippine government and Western Union Foundation, drawing lessons from similar diaspora projects successfully executed in Africa and Mexico by Western Union, which provided the seed money of \$250,000 to jumpstart this project.

The project will test a mechanism to facilitate and direct overseas remittances toward savings and investment in livelihood improvement and entrepreneurship for the poor, ultimately creating jobs and reducing poverty in the Philippines, the world's fourth-largest recipient of overseas remittances after India, China, and Mexico.

"The program intends to efficiently and accountably link hard monies from overseas to create sustainable small businesses that generate jobs and economic op-

portunity back home in the Philippines. Upon success, the model will be replicated in different parts of the world," said WUF president Luella Chavez D'Angelo, who flew in from Colorado USA, to launch the project.

The six-pronged project will involve facilitating governmental support for public policy inclusion of collective remittances, building awareness for the concept, organizing overseas Filipinos to pool funds, giving people at home the skills and capabilities to identify and carry out projects, promoting the concept and mobilizing funds and matching private funds with private funds.

Ilocos Norte and Taguig were picked as pilot sites not because of the number of migrant workers but because WUF believes these territories have a greater likelihood of embracing this concept.

In an interview with the Philippine Daily Inquirer, D'Angelo explained that this Philippine project could draw lessons from the successes of an earlier project rolled out by her foundation in Africa whereby a competition was launched targeting African diaspora in Washington, D.C., and New York to come up with business plans that would help development in the proponent's hometown. In that project, proponents were required to bring

in their share of capital worth around \$10,000 to \$15,000 and the best proposals were chosen and WUF helped raise funds for the projects.

What WUF was hoping to accomplish in the Philippines, she said, would be to harness collective remittances among overseas Filipinos and hopefully get its agents and local government units to contribute cash to the pot and WUF would match the amount raised. In the African pilot, she said what was originally targeted to be a \$500,000 project ended up leveraging \$1.8 million.

WUF did not seek equity from local governments in Africa but in another project in Mexico, she said there was some contribution from the local leadership. But apart from equity, she said the program would need support from local governments by promoting awareness as well as making sure that local regulations would not get in the way of developmental objectives.

During the launch, Ilocos Norte Governor Imee Marcos and Taguig City councilor Aurelio Bartolome expressed support for the project. Likewise present was Commission on Filipinos Overseas Secretary Imelda Nicolas, who said: "The objective of harnessing remittances for local development is the next frontier

for development banking."

"In our dealings with community leaders, we find that a lot of Filipinos that are well settled abroad are always looking for means to help the communities they left behind," Western Union senior vice president for Pacific and Indochina Patricia Riingen said.

That's where this project could help, Riingen said, noting for instance that if there's a certain town wishing to set up a "balut"-making industry, collective funds from abroad could be channeled to such activities.

"At Western Union, we believe that leaving home to work overseas should be a choice, not a necessity borne of lack of options. We share the dream that someday, people in the Philippines and in developing countries everywhere will have the option to stay with their families, that jobs and opportunities at home will provide a choice and that going overseas will be but one way to make a better life," Riingen said.

D'Angelo said WUF would measure the success of this project partly in terms of growth in collective remittances and increase in local businesses, particularly small and medium enterprises. A deeper assessment could be done with the help of the National Economic and Development Authority, she said.

Quiapo on US list of 'most notorious' markets

By JERRY E. ESPLANADA
PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

MANILA, Philippines — Manila's Quiapo district has been named by the Washington-based Office of the US Trade Representative as one of the world's 21 most "notorious markets" for pirated and counterfeit goods.

In a report posted on the Web site of the US Embassy in Manila, the USTR called Quiapo "one example of several locations and neighborhoods (in the Philippines), especially in Metro Manila, known to deal in counterfeit and pirated goods

such as clothing, shoes, watches, and handbags."

Last year, Quiapo and 168 Mall in Binondo, also in Manila, along with Greenhills in San Juan and the Makati Cinema Square in Makati City, were cited by the USTR in its Special 301 Report on similar markets.

"Street stalls in these areas are a haven for counterfeit clothing, shoes, watches, and handbags," said the report.

It pointed out that "due to the unwillingness of local investigation agencies and government authorities to confront stall owners, trademark owners have had a

difficult time obtaining meaningful enforcement action."

"Also, although a 2006 Executive Order established landlord liability, no landlords reportedly have yet been prosecuted for Intellectual Property Rights (IPR) violations," the report added.

It did not mention fake diplomas, term papers, official certificates and even fake checks sold on Claro M. Recto Avenue.

According to the USTR, the 20 other notorious markets for pirated and counterfeit items worldwide were: the Bahia in Guayaquil, Ecuador; China Small Commodities market in Yiwu, Luouwu market in Shenzhen, Yangpu Yigao Digital Square in Shanghai, and the Hailong PC Mall and Silk Market in Beijing, all in China; Ciudad del Este in Paraguay; Harco Glodok in Jakarta; La Salada in Buenos Aires, Argentina; Ladies Market in Mongkok, Hong Kong; Petrivka in Kiev, Ukraine; Savelovskiy in Moscow, Russia; Panthip Plaza, Klong Thom, Saphan Lek, and Baan Mor shopping areas, all in Thailand; San Andresitos, Colombia; Tepito in Mexico City; Nehru Place in New Delhi, India; and the Urdu bazaars in Karachi and Lahore, Pakistan.

BIRTHDAY SHOUTOUT

Happy 2nd birthday to our Little Nemo, Kailani Lucil Kaipat Laniyo! Two years old and already biya! May God bless you as you continue to grow! Love Mommy, Daddy, and Franklin. Nina also loves you!



Happy 1st birthday to Victor Joseph R. Mallari, who's celebrating his birthday today, April 9, 2011. You are the most wonderful gift from God. May you have many more birthdays to celebrate, we love you! Greetings come from your mom, dad, and loving sisters Evon, Nicole, and Margaret.

Happy birthday greeting go out to papa, Vicente Villanueva, who is celebrating his special day today, April 9, 2011. Greetings coming out from Bossing and the family.



Birthday greetings going out to Felicita San Nicolas who's celebrating her birthday today April 9, 2011. May the Lord continue to bless you and may you have more birthdays to come. Greetings coming from your loving children Tracy, Tohin, Shahet and Saeem and also your loving husband John Salas.



HIGH SCORER

Congratulations to Edward S. Concepcion for having the highest score for the Battalion Fitness Competition! Greetings come from the Salas-Concepcion family.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTOS

Maharlika – PinoyStyle

Multinational firm suspends ad on ‘Willing Willie’

By KAREN BONCOCAN

INQUIRER.NET

MANILA, Philippines—Procter & Gamble Philippines has suspended ad placement on “Willing Willie” amid a child abuse controversy hounding the top-rating television show’s host, the multinational company announced Thursday.

P&G consumer relations manager Sol Liboro said the company was taking the macho dancing episode on the TV5 game show seriously and has “suspended advertising on the show beginning April 7, 2011, while the incident is being reviewed and investigated by authorities.”

Regine Velasquez rumored pregnant

By TOTEL V. DE JESUS, MARINEL R. CRUZ

INQUIRER.NET, PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

MANILA, Philippines—Earlier in the week as revealed by Ruffa Gutierrez on her Twitter account, 40-year-old entertainment celebrity Regine Velasquez has been rumored to be five weeks pregnant though Velasquez and husband Ogie Alcasid have refused to confirm it.

The answer arrived in trickles as Velasquez suddenly became unavailable and had stopped reporting for work in her home network, GMA.

On Thursday, it was reported via GMA’s “24 Oras” that Velasquez had begged off from continuing to appear in the daily prime-time comedy series, “I Heart You, Pare.” Her party cited “severe migraine” as reason and she needed to take ample rest. Her role will be replaced by another GMA prized talent, Iza Calzado.

In a statement sent late Thursday

Liboro said that P&G advertises “on programs that align with our values as a company and with our purpose to touch and improve life,” adding the firm regularly monitors media groups carrying its brands.

Jollibee Foods Corp. has earlier suspended its advertisements on “Willing Willie” while CDO Foodsphere Inc. said it would continue its ads placement.

Snack firm Oishi called the incident “regretful” but maintained that it was not withdrawing its advertisements.



Revillame

The Philippine Association of National Advertisers has said it gave its members the choice to pull out or maintain advertisements on the show.

The association said it has shared information on the March 12 incident with its members and trust that they “will be guided accordingly on the best decision to take.”

TV5 television network has apologized for the incident, which caused uproar on the Internet, and said it would conduct a thorough investigation.

night via email to the media, GMA Entertainment Television announced: “Ms. Regine Velasquez will no longer play the role of Tonette/Tonya in the hit series ‘I HEART YOU PARE’ beginning next week. Because of her severe migraine, Regine has been advised by her physician to refrain from working long and late hours and to get as much rest as possible.

In light of this development, Ms. Iza Calzado will take over Regine’s role starting Monday, April 11. GMA Network is fully confident that Iza will be able to play the character of Tonette in the series and at the same time truly grateful to her for accepting the challenge.

We encourage the fans and followers of the program to watch out for Iza’s scenes with Dingdong [Dantes] as well as exciting twists in the coming weeks.”

Also on Thursday night, Inquirer Entertainment received a text message

from Alcasid, apologizing for their silence over the pregnancy or non-pregnancy issue.

The full text: “To our dear friends, please allow me to apologize for not answering your texts or calls this week. It has not been an easy week. My wife and I just had to focus on things that really matter to us. In due time, we will be ready to answer you. Thank you so much for the concern and the understanding. Again, my apologies and God bless you.”

It was not the first time that Velasquez was rumored to be pregnant. In the past couple of years prior to her marriage to Alcasid, every time she’s brought to the hospital for various reasons, the media always came up with the same pregnancy issue.

Says an entertainment reporter who refused to be named for lack of authority to speak on the matter, “If those past rumors were true, Regine is now a mother of a dozen children.”



Carmi Martin

Carmi Martin gets a degree at 47

By BAYANI SAN DIEGO JR.

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

First time she entered a classroom, her much younger classmates were a bit intimidated.

“They called me Ma’am,” actress Carmi Martin, 47, recalled, laughing. “I told them that they could call me Miss Carmi instead.”

Slowly, she immersed herself in her classmates’ world. “I’d join them every break time and we’d chat. I encouraged them to study well, but we also talked about show biz chismis. Para hindi boring.”

Last year, Martin went back to school—to finish Fine Arts at the Philippine Women’s University.

She took a two-year certificate course at the Philippine School of Interior Design in 2003, but postponed taking the board exam for interior designers.

Although she just graduated last April 2, she is planning to enroll in summer classes this week—this time to obtain her second degree, BS in Interior Design, also at PWU.

She related that her decision to go back to school came at a time when she was at a crossroads.

“I wasn’t that busy with show biz then,” she recounted. “Funny thing

was, after I enrolled at PWU, I got swamped with work—two soap operas (GMA 7’s “Beauty Queen” and “My Lover, My Wife”) and a Star Cinema movie (“Huling Sayaw,” top-billed by Aga Muhlach and Angel Locsin).

In spite of her busy schedule, she didn’t quit school. “I made a commitment with myself,” she proudly said.

No regrets

First to be sacrificed was the party scene. “I’ve already had my fill of the nightlife,” she said. “Naka-quota na ako, kumbaga.”

Helping her manage her time were her teachers, who were just as supportive as her classmates, she noted.

“Whenever I can’t make it to class because of tapings or location shoots, I make sure to submit my assignments right away,” she pointed out. “My teachers appreciate that I deliver projects on time.”

She regarded the whole experience as an eye-opener that has now become a new mission: “God must’ve wanted me to inspire people. I want to tell housewives and other interior decorators . . . that they should not be afraid to go back to school. It’s never too late to aim higher. Age, work, family . . . nothing is an obstacle if you want

to attain an important goal.”

She admitted that she’s a far more serious student now than when she was younger.

“I never thought I’d enjoy studying,” she quipped. “Now, I don’t study just for the sake of studying. I’m really interested. In class, I ask questions. I give my input, too.”

Are Jolo, Jodi a couple?

By DOLLY ANNE CARVAJAL

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

Are Jolo Revilla and Jodi Sta. Maria now a couple or are they still in the getting-to-know-you stage?

Jodi has parted ways with hubby Pampi Lacson but their marriage hasn’t been annulled.

It’s an awkward phase in any separated woman’s life to be back in the dating jungle. Been there, felt that. People can be cruel and judge a separada unfairly when all she wants is to find happiness again.

If Jolo is indeed Jodi’s new inspiration, he should not be blamed as the cause of her breakup with Pampi. Instead, he is more of the (after) effect of the Lacsons’ failed marriage.

“As they say, time heals all wounds,” Dingdong explained. “It helped that I stayed very good friends with her dad, Hajji. I got a chance to meet Carlos when Rachel and I had a show in Australia. They are madly in love with each other. Jessa and I are very happy for them. The song I made for them is not a typical love song and is bagay for their beach wedding.”

He shared with me the lyrics, the first verses of which go: “Seems like it was only yesterday/When I thought that love won’t come my way/I used to think that it had passed me by/Then you came my way ...”

No cheesy moments

Someone privy to Sen. Chiz Escudero’s life told me that he and his fab wife Christine have parted ways. Too bad because they were so well-suited for each other. But who knows? Maybe fate and time will bring them back together again.

Biggest sins

I recently asked Aiko Melendez: “Now that you’re single again, is there any chance for you and your ex, chef Martin Jickain (dad of her daughter Marthena), to reconcile?”

She laughed. “Mart and I are better off as friends. Besides, he has a GF na. We are closer now than when we were together. I can tell him things now that I couldn’t tell him before. Ibang level ang friendship namin. I’m close even to his mom and also to my other ex, Jo-mari’s, mom. Katawa both their moms tell me na makipagbalikan daw ako sa mga anak nila.”

Is she on speaking terms with her other ex, Patrick Meneses? “We haven’t talked at all,” she said. “When we split up last Valentine’s day, that was the last time I heard from him. But I’m coping well. God has given me so many reasons to be happy.”

New asset

I am so delighted that my friend from way back, Aga Muhlach, is TV5’s newest asset. I told Ags, “Even if we didn’t happen to be both in the Kapitid network, we’ve always been family anyway.”

Moving on

Dennis Trillo was spotted at Opus last Saturday night with a tall, long-haired mestiza date who has a striking resemblance to his ex-girlfriend Carlene Aguilar (with whom he has a

Maharlika – Opinyon

Marcos rehabilitation bandwagon

The bandwagon seeking the rehabilitation of the dictator Ferdinand Marcos is in full flight in the run-up to the 39th anniversary of the proclamation or martial law in the Philippines in September 1972.

The move is being pushed by the Marcos family and his political heirs who are calling for the burial of the dictator in the Libingan ng mga Bayani (Cemetery of Heroes). Sen. Ferdinand Marcos Jr., son of the late dictator, said the burial of the elder Marcos should be seen as an attempt to “close a chapter” in the country’s history and to “move forward” as an opportunity for the “unification of the country.” The call immediately reopened the deep cleavage over the excesses of the Marcos regime among its countless victims.

The call came after former Armed Forces Chief of Staff Angelo Reyes was buried with full military honors at the Libingan after he committed suicide on Feb. 8 amid charges that he received huge retirement payments. The young Marcos used the Reyes burial as the opening wedge to claim that there was “inequitable treatment” of his father, who, according to Senator Marcos, deserved to be buried at the site, having been a war hero and the longest-serving president of the country. This claim immediately raised the issue whether Marcos Sr. was a “war hero” and whether being the longest serving president (21 years, 14 of which as a dictator) entitled him to be buried at the heroes’ cemetery.

The claim drew a sharp rebuke from Caloocan Bishop Deogracias Iñiguez, who spoke on behalf of the Catholic Church hierarchy which, during the martial law years, was at loggerheads with the dictatorship and denounced the regime’s human rights abuses and its massive corruption. The hierarchy disputes the claim that Marcos was a hero. The bishop said he did not think Marcos would “qualify to be buried there,” adding, “It’s hard to judge if a person is a hero or not unless we really know what he did for the country.”

The claim that Marcos was a war hero has been debunked as fraudulent. Two weeks before the snap election in January 1986, the New York Times reported: “The US Army concluded that after World War II Ferdinand Marcos’ claims of heading a guerrilla resistance unit during the Japanese occupation... were ‘fraudulent’ and ‘absurd.’” The report, based on research in US military archives, showed that “between 1945 and 1948 various US Army officers rejected Marcos’ two requests for official recognition of the unit, calling his claims distorted, exaggerated, fraudulent, contradictory and absurd.” Army investigators concluded that Maharlika (Marcos’ guerrilla unit) was a fictitious creation and that “no such unit ever existed as a guerrilla organization during the war.”

Against these authoritative reports, the Marcos family is trying to resurrect the fraud of his war record and foist it as the basis of their move to have him buried as a war hero at the Libingan.

Against the evidence, 204 members of the House of Representatives have signed the petition seeking the burial of Marcos at the Libingan and have climbed on board the bandwagon to rehabilitate Marcos. The signatures endorsing the petition indicate that members of Congress are gullible and susceptible to be hijacked by schemes designed to perpetrate a fraudulent claim.

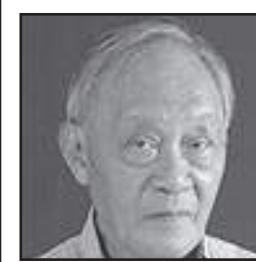
Also, members of Congress appeared to have been easily deluded by false claims that the burial of Marcos would lead to national reconciliation. There cannot be any unification of the country or a

closure of the dark chapter of our history of being under a dictatorship unless there’s humility on the part of the Marcos family to acknowledge the abuses and excesses of the Marcos regime. There has never been any hint of contrition on their part over the seizure of their ill-gotten wealth and the numerous evidence of human rights atrocities committed by martial law authorities.

Marcos Jr. is even flaunting the claim that the country had never been in stronger and more prosperous economic condition than it was during the dictatorship. He ignores the fact that under Marcos’ crony capitalism, the economy was plunged into a deep crisis in the early 1980s. He seems to be arguing that the country had never had it so good than it was under the dictatorship.

The move to rehabilitate Marcos is as devious as the deception employed by Marcos when he imposed martial law. Marcos signed Proclamation 1081 placing the entire country under martial law close to midnight on Sept. 21, 1971. From that moment, army units fanned out to arrest first targets among politicians and journalists deemed as enemies of the state. The raiding teams were armed with arrest warrants and copies of the proclamation they nailed on the doors of newspaper offices and Congress which they shut down. Media and radio stations were eerily silent from midnight to the next morning, except the radio flash report that Defense Secretary Juan Ponce Enrile was ambushed near Wack Wack Golf and Country Club, providing the justification for the declaration of martial law. Marcos appeared on national television on Sept. 23 to officially announce that martial law had been brought down. It was the biggest deception perpetrated by Marcos on Philippine democracy.

In determining whether we can accept the burial of Marcos at Libingan and acclaim him as a national hero, it should never be forgotten that the biggest crime Marcos committed against the Filipino people was that he imposed the first dictatorship in Philippine modern political history.



Analysis

By AMUNDO DORONILA

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

Craving for ‘sinigang’

Once upon a time, the *Inquirer* webpage used to have a striking ad with a parade of covers from my books saying, “See the Philippines through the eyes of our heroes.”

Those were the days when my book titles were: *Rizal Without the Overcoat*, *Aguinaldo’s Breakfast*, *Bonifacio’s Bolo*, *Mabini’s Ghost* and *Luna’s Moustache*. Some pessimists snorted and predicted that I would soon run out of heroes to write about in my books. I would like to think that despite all the bad news we read in the papers, there are many heroes in our midst, many good things around that don’t make it to the newspapers or primetime news.

Philippine history has a similar blind spot because it is focused on the deeds of great men. Our history is the story of how we came to be. It is often oversimplified and reduced to political history when it can be more engaging with a dose of social and cultural history.

Textbook history is dull because the physical book is badly printed on brownish paper. Illustrations seldom enhance the text. For example, why use a horrible artist’s rendition of the faces of our 19th-century heroes when one can use actual photographs in the public domain? Why should our students endure poems and stories from textbook authors when our folklore and our literature remain an untapped resource? Why not provide primary sources like Pigafetta’s account of the Battle of Mactan in 1521 or Rizal’s letters and diaries to introduce close reading and critical thinking at every stage of basic education?

Antonio Calipio Go has pushed publicly for the basic requirement that textbooks should be grammatically and factually correct. But what about textbook content? I am tempted to take up the challenge to write a new history textbook, but unless the present scope and outline (the former Minimum Learning Competencies watered down into Desired Learning Competencies) of history in school is updated by the Department of Education, this future textbook will not be approved for use. We have a chance to change things if there will be political will to add two years to our basic education program.

Discussing ways to improve textbooks, I always use the example of the Philippine Revolution. We know the outcome of the Revolution, but we don’t know how it was fought. Details on weaponry and warfare are of interest to many students. Some argue that these are trivia, but these details bring life into history and underscore the challenges and difficulties that went into the making of the nation. To remind students that our heroes were once of flesh and blood before they were immortalized in monuments of stone and bronze, excerpts from the letters of Rizal and Marcelo H. del Pilar show that every Pinoy abroad endures loneliness made worse by homesickness.



Looking Back

By AMBETH OCAMPO

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

got drunk. All of us ate very well, but as the rice expanded [*ang kanin ay humilab*], we were attacked by *buli-buli* [gas and indigestion] the whole day. After each dish, we walked about, and when any one came to inquire for the owners of the house, he was told they were not at home in order not to disturb the feast. Consumed were fourteen pounds of rice, five chickens, four pounds of beef, and of the suckling pig [*lechoncito*] that cost us a peso and a half not a bone was left. There was an indescribable confusion. Valentin Ventura was also with us, so that we were sixteen Filipinos.

“We missed the *sinigang*. The cook was Esteban Villanueva. During the meal we spoke Tagalog. This reminded me of Pansol when we ate there and Marianito cooked marvelously...”

Plaridel wrote his wife Tsanay of their Noche Buena in 1890 where they had rice turkey and lechon with sauce like that back home. They ate with their hands, too, with the left as a plate and the right for feeding.

By themselves the above are trivial details, but when used properly such details can make history engaging and relevant to students.

EDITORIAL

Instinct

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Impunity is a hard habit to break. When the Office of the President dismissed Deputy Ombudsman Emilio Gonzalez III from government service for “gross neglect of duty and grave misconduct constituting betrayal of public trust,” the Office of Ombudsman Merceditas Gutierrez responded immediately with open defiance.

Using the findings of the Incident Investigation and Review Committee, the inter-agency task force chaired by Justice Secretary Leila de Lima, which probed the mishandling of the hostage-taking incident in Rizal Park that claimed the lives of eight Hong Kong tourists last Aug. 23, the Office of the President found Gonzalez responsible for triggering the hostage-taking in the first place, by failing to act expeditiously on a motion filed by former policeman Rolando Mendoza. Instead of the five days mandated by the Ombudsman’s own procedures, the IIRC determined that Gonzalez had allowed “Mendoza’s motion for reconsideration to languish for nine months without any justification.” Deep frustration over the delay drove Mendoza to take the tourists hostage.

Assistant Ombudsman Jose de Jesus, the same spokesman who defended then-Ombudsman Aniano Desierto against charges he was intentionally undermining the cases his office filed before the Sandiganbayan (a pattern this newspaper called the “Ombudscam”), adopted the same no-holds-barred approach to his defense of Gonzalez.

Reading from a press statement, De Jesus said the Ombudsman’s office had considered “the matter of Gonzalez’s culpability in the hijacking episode as legally final and closed.” He added: “What we are saying is that [the Palace decision] is conflicting with the earlier decision of the Office of the Ombudsman—with all due respect to the decision of the Office of the President—exonerating Deputy Ombudsman Gonzalez from the charge.”

To which the only proper response is: So what? Is the Office of the Ombudsman a new and co-equal branch of government? To say that its decision conflicts with the position of the President—and we ought to recognize that the order of dismissal “was approved by authority of the President”—is to assume that the two offices are equal, and that the presidency’s unchallenged authority to remove non-impeachable officials does not apply to the Ombudsman’s domain.

Conflict is material only when the two agencies of government are co-equal; when they are not, the position of the higher office must hold sway.

Senate President Juan Ponce Enrile, not exactly a rookie when it comes to legal questions, categorically described the Ombudsman’s response as defiance, and offered advice to Gutierrez, now impeached and facing trial in the Senate next month. “If I were her, I won’t join the fray because she’s facing a case.”

But years of misusing the awesome powers of the Ombudsman to prosecute lowly officials and protect the higher-ups have taken their toll on the Ombudsman and her lawyers. Last Friday’s knee-jerk reaction tells us the instinct to clear the high and mighty is already second nature.

Young Style

London boot camp held for pint-size 'princesses'

By PAISLEY DODDS
ASSOCIATED PRESS

LONDON (AP)—With Britain's royal wedding around the corner, wannabe princesses gathered Saturday at a posh London hotel for a crash course on how to curtsey, what to say to the queen and how to keep pesky crumbs off their lips when eating finger sandwiches.

At first glance, the scene smacked of the 1964 film "My Fair Lady," except Audrey Hepburn's working class character had been replaced by a crew of taffeta-wearing pre-teens who gleefully walked with books on their heads and learned how to stir tea without clanging the cutlery.

The April 29 wedding of Prince William and Kate Middleton has fueled a bonanza of opportunities for niche entrepreneurs.

"It gives girls the ability to know that they can be in any situation—whether it's with the queen, their parents, their teacher, a friend—and know that they're behaving the right way. And I think that's important, royalty or no royalty," says Jerramy Fine, 33, the American founder of Princess Prep.

Saturday's one-day course will be followed by a series of weeklong summer camps in London for 8- to 11-year-old girls. Costing more than \$4,000, the camps teach girls about modern and historic princesses, royal history, phone etiquette, how to take compliments and what to do if you suddenly find food wedged between your teeth. The girls also volunteer at royal charities—all while being waited on by a butler called 'Jeeves.' Fine says she expects to draw more Americans for the longer summer camps.

"Before, I felt shy and like just a normal person—and now I feel like I actually am a princess," said Maude Fisher, 8, whose mother is from Milwaukee, Wisconsin.

Wearing a Jackie O-style suit, pearls and perfectly coifed hair, Fine taught the 12 British and American girls Saturday how to behave in front of the queen—a mother wearing a cardboard mask of the monarch—who sat next to life-sized cardboard cutouts of William and Kate.

Girls were first instructed on how to curtsey: smooth out your dress or skirt, grab its corners and bend your knees. None of the girls wore trousers.

"Good afternoon your majesty," each girl recited, before greeting the one-dimensional soon-to-be royal couple.

The next lesson included a mock tea party, complete with tea, real jam, clotted cream, scones, finger sandwiches and a waiter whose name was not Jeeves.

"Take your spoon and stir from 12 o'clock to 6 o'clock," Fine said. "I don't want to hear any spoons clanking."

Europe has long been known as the place to go to meet royalty and aristocrats. Some American girls and young women spend small fortunes each year to do "the season," which begins in the spring and features key events such as



Eleanor Fisher, 7, right, reads a Princess handbook, during the 'A Princess Tea Party' event, at a hotel in London, Saturday, April 2, 2011. AP



Maude Fisher, 7, sips a cup of tea, during the 'A Princess Tea Party' event, at a hotel in London, Saturday, April 2, 2011. AP

Wimbledon, the Henley Regatta and the Royal Ascot—tennis, rowing and horse racing events that have drawn Britain's aristocracy since the 17th and 18th centuries.

Debutantes also vie for coveted invites each year to the Crillon ball in Paris, a matchmaking-cum-fashion extravaganza.

None of the girls will likely get within spitting distance of Westminster Abbey for the wedding. If they do, they most certainly will refrain from spitting.

Fine, author of the book "Someday my prince will come: true adventures

of a wannabe princess," says the camps are less about how to marry a prince and more to do with learning self control and confidence.

Still, a tiara on one of the tea party tables read, "Bride to Be." The plastic prop vanished before the cameras stopped filming.

"I wanted to create a different sort of summer camp—unlike the ones that I grew up with in America, where you slept in wooden cabins and had to play sports," said Fine, a 33-year-old who now lives in London with her non-titled, non-blueblood British husband. "My hippie parents are horrified, as

they thought I would grow out of it."

Fine's royal obsession began in Colorado with a school girl crush on Peter Phillips—Queen Elizabeth II's eldest grandchild. She said when other girls were writing love letters to actor Rob Lowe—a 1980s American heartthrob—she was checking out royalty books at her local library.

The announcement of Prince William's engagement has prompted a fresh wave of girls and women dreaming about winning the affections of William's younger brother, Harry, who is still single. Some have even admitted to stalking the party-loving Harry's favorite London haunts in the hopes of seducing the redhead prince.

"I can definitely relate," says Fine, who eventually did meet Peter Phillips after moving to Britain. "I try to explain now it's not really about meeting royal men. It's about the journey."

While the Princess Prep camps are just beginning, the princess business itself is a commercially charmed venture. Disney's Princess line of products debuted in 2001. Today, Disney Princess is one of the fastest-growing franchises with global retail sales of \$4 billion, according to Disney spokesman Andrea Tartaglia.

Part of the draw, he says, is that some of Disney's fictional princesses have been given modern makeovers.

"It's a rite of passage," he says. "Many girls have emotional connections with the characters."

Critics, however, decry the perpetuation of princess-mania and the trend of becoming ultra-feminine. In her book "Cinderella Ate My Daughter," journalist Peggy Orenstein writes about her own daughter's obsession with princesses and the color pink, and the marketing machine behind products based on princesses.

Deaf, disabled kids harmonize in Venezuela program

By JORGE RUEDA
ASSOCIATED PRESS

BARQUISIMETO, Venezuela (AP)—When the choir begins, only some of its young members sing aloud. The rest make music silently through sign language, wearing white gloves as their hands perform an elaborate choreography in unison.

The deaf members of the White Hands Choir are part of an unusual program in Venezuela that brings together students with a wide range of disabilities and immerses them in music. They rehearse with blind and mentally disabled musicians who play the trumpet, piano and bongo drums and with singers who have Down syndrome or autism or use wheelchairs.

Venezuela's music program for the disabled began in 1995 in the north-central city of Barquisimeto and has spread throughout the country while also becoming a model internationally.

During one recent recital, the audience included Nicolae Sarpe, a cellist and music teacher in Italy who made a special visit to see the choir for himself.

"Things like this hit you right here," Sarpe said, gesturing to his heart. He said what makes Venezuela



In this photo taken March 10, 2011, members of the White Hands Choir practice at a music school in Barquisimeto, Venezuela. AP

ela's program unique is that it involves hundreds of disabled music students across the country.

The program was begun as part of Venezuela's famed National System of Youth and Children's Orchestras, known as El Sistema, which has become famous for involving children from the slums in classical music and for producing talented musicians.

Disabled students rehearse in the

same music conservatory where years ago prodigy conductor Gustavo Dudamel—now music director of the Los Angeles Philharmonic—honed his talents. In the conservatory's hallways and classrooms, disabled children and teenagers practice on violins, guitars and other instruments, and rehearse a wide range of music from Brahms to Ruben Blades. Some play salsa music

in a band.

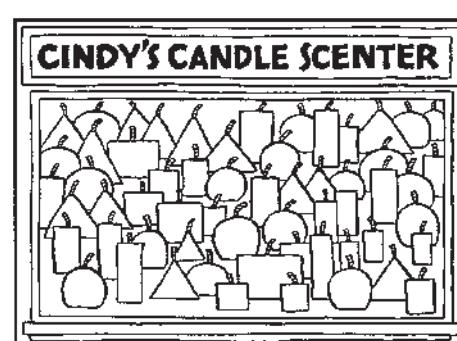
Teachers say being involved in music boosts the students' self-esteem and helps them to set goals. When they perform, audiences are impressed.

"They're applauded for the quality work they've done, for the professional work they've developed, and not for their disabilities," said program founder and teacher Johnny Gomez.

For years, Gomez has worked closely with Jose Antonio Abreu, a former Venezuelan congressman and musician who in 1975 created El Sistema to provide quality music instruction to all children. Abreu's network of orchestras grew rapidly and now comprises about 150 youth orchestras and 70 children's orchestras nationwide, providing free classes and instruments to pupils who couldn't otherwise afford them.

"Today the special education program is a banner of El Sistema," Gomez said. "They know about it in various countries. We're always contacted by people who come from abroad to see what's happening with music here."

The White Hands Choir has won awards in Italy and Britain, and has performed for famous visitors to Venezuela including Simon Rattle of the Berlin Philharmonic.



DON'T BE A DRIP solving this one. Can you correctly count the candles in Cindy's shop window? You have 30 seconds.

Answer: Our count was 60. What about yours?

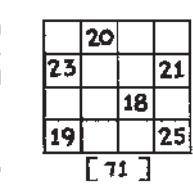
DON'T GET "SNOWED UNDER" BY THIS ONE! To solve this problem, you must replace the letters in the AlphaMath puzzle with the digits 0, 1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8 and 9, so that you have a correct addition problem. The same letters get the same digits. See if you can get a higher total than we did.



Our answer: S=5, N=1, W=3, B=4, Y=6, F=9, R=7, T=8. 5013 + 4165 = 9178.

IT'S MAGIC! Use the numbers 24 and 26, and 10 through 17 to fill in this Magic Square. The numbers in each horizontal row and vertical column should total 71. We've filled in six of the squares. The rest is up to you.

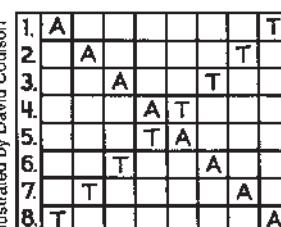
Row: 12, 25, 18, 15, 20, 24, 10, Second row: 23, 11, 16, 21, Third



Answers: 1. Alfract; 2. Badmoult; 3. Blakdoe; 4. Glastring; 5. Leotards; 6. Sasturale; 7. Singray; 8. Trifecta

Junior Whirl

by Charles Barry Townsend



in the two anagram words must be unscrambled and used to form the word asked for.

DEFINITIONS

1. An archaeological find.
2. To criticize or disparage.
3. Makes cars travel smoother.
4. Feeling of malicious pleasure.
5. Exercise workout garments.
6. Load to capacity.
7. Fish with a deadly tail.
8. A long-shot horse race bet.

ANAGRAM:

cart + flat
moth + baud
plot + back
tail + gong
sole + dart
taut + sear
gist + yarn
rite + fact

FIND THE BIG WORDS!

Using the definitions and the anagrams below, you must find the eight eight-letter words that fit into the framework pictured on the left. For each definition, the letters

Costly shots leave cat owner wincing

DEAR PAW'S CORNER: My cat, "Trina," is an indoor cat—her paws never touch the outside ground. So why does she need so many different shots each year? The feline leukemia I can understand, but why should she get a rabies shot and so on when she's never exposed to other creatures? The shots are so costly that we are refraining from taking her to get them. — Ethel H., via e-mail



Paw's corner

by Sam Mazzotta

states have been reducing the frequency of rabies shots—from every year to once every three years. Certain other shots still are required annually, but it's one less item on your bill.

Please keep Trina's vaccinations up to date. You'll have the peace of mind of knowing she's safe just in case.

■ ■ ■

Note: To help out financially strapped pet owners, I've been listing low-cost vaccination clinics by state on my website, www.pawscorner.com. Check to see if a clinic is taking place in your area. If you know of an upcoming clinic that's not listed, email me at ask@pawscorner.com, and I'll add the date.

In recent years, a growing number of

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Strange BUT TRUE

By Samantha Weaver

■ It was French novelist, essayist and critic Marcel Proust who made the following sage observation: "There is nothing like desire for preventing the things one says from bearing any resemblance to what one has in one's mind."

■ The city of Denver holds the distinction of being the first major metropolitan area to allow women to vote in elections, back in 1893.

■ Connectivity may finally be going too far. Way too far. Beyond death, even. It seems that someone has now invented the solar-powered eTomb, a headstone that stores information from the deceased's social networking sites. Visitors to the grave can use a laptop or a smartphone to download photos, blog posts and even videos via a Bluetooth connection.

■ Famed screenwriter and director Woody Allen started his career in show business in the 1960s as a writer for the TV series "Candid Camera."

■ In a traditional Moroccan wedding, the bride must be purified in a milk bath and have her hands and feet painted with henna before the ceremony.

■ A man named Stephen Burns holds a rather odd world record: He managed to hitchhike through all of the contiguous 48 states in less time than anyone else—26 days and 6 hours.

■ You might be surprised to learn that the largest supplier of foreign oil to the United States isn't Saudi Arabia, Libya, Iraq or Kuwait. In fact, we buy more of our oil much closer to home: from Canada.

■ Between 70 percent and 80 percent of all the world's fresh water is frozen, stored in Arctic and Antarctic glaciers.

■ Not all black bears are black; individuals in some populations around the world can be brown, white, cinnamon or even blue.

■ ■ ■

Thought for the Day: "I envy people who drink. At least they have something to blame everything on."—Oscar Levant

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MAGIC MAZE • EATING UTENSILS

E F I N K J I I E S C Z X U S Q
N L J G E C C Z G X V T R P N
L J H E C A I Y N W V D T R P
N S K C I T S P O I C Y F L K
S I G R E K C A R C B A R C E
T G C B O K Z X T E W L O U E
R S N R R P P O M I T P P J F
A I N O O P S R A G U S S K I
W G N U T C R A C K E R B R P
E K D B A Y N O O P S P U O S
X W U T S Q P O N L K J H F L

Find the listed words in the diagram. They run in all directions—forward, backward, up, down and diagonally.

Chopsticks Knork Spife Sugar spoon
Crab cracker Lobster pick Splayd Tongs
Fork Nutcracker Sporf Trongs
Knife Soup spoon Spork

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GO FIGURE! by Linda Thistle

The idea of Go Figure is to arrive at the figures given at the bottom and right-hand columns of the diagram by following the arithmetic signs in the order they are given (that is, from left to right and top to bottom). Use only the numbers below the diagram to complete its blank squares and use each of the nine numbers only once.

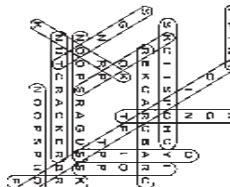
DIFFICULTY: ★★

★ Moderate ★★ Difficult
★★★ GO FIGURE!

	-		x		21
x		+		÷	
	x		-		23
-		x		+	
	÷		+		10
21	18	14			
1	2	3	4	5	6
7	7	9			

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MAGIC MAZE ANSWER



GO FIGURE ANSWER

21	18	16	14
9	÷	3	+
6	x	4	-
5	-	2	x
	2	7	21

EATING UTENSILS

Family fresh key lime pie

Donna's Day Creative family fun

by Donna Erickson



set aside.

Increase oven temperature to 350 F.

Step 2: While one child crushes the graham crackers, let another child squeeze the fresh limes to yield about 1 cup of lime juice. An adult should reduce the lime juice in a saucepan to 1/4 cup at a slow simmer over medium heat. Cool to room temperature.

Step 3: Whisk egg yolks together in a bowl. Stir in the sweetened condensed milk and cooled juice. Pour filling into the pie shell and bake 7-10 minutes or until the middle is firm but able to jiggle. Cool, and refrigerate for at least 2 hours before serving.

Top with dollops of whipping cream sprinkled with lemon zest and fresh mango slices. Delicious!

■ ■ ■

Donna Erickson's award-winning series "Donna's Day" is airing on public television nationwide. To find more of her creative family recipes and activities, visit www.donnasday.com and link to the NEW Donna's Day Facebook fan page. Her latest book is "Donna Erickson's Fabulous Funstuff for Families."

(c) 2011 Donna Erickson

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Life & Style

'American Idol' finalist eliminated, leaving 8

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Songbird Pia Toscano was eliminated from "American Idol" on Thursday, leaving the judges who had lavished praise on her in despair over the audience's decision.

Randy Jackson covered his head and mouthed a repeated "No" after host Ryan Seacrest announced that Toscano received the lowest number of viewer votes after her performance Wednesday of "River Deep—Mountain High."

Toscano, 22, a dark-haired beauty from the Queens borough of New York City managed to remain composed on stage as the judges decried the results.

"I have no idea what happened here. I'm shocked. I'm angry," said judge Jennifer Lopez.

Steven Tyler said viewers were wrong, adding, "She's beautiful. When she sings, she's a bird."

Jury prospects asked if they are Jackson fans

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Lawyers in the case against Michael Jackson's doctor want to know if prospective jurors were fans of the pop star, how much they know about his death, and how familiar they are with 27 different prescription drugs he may have taken.

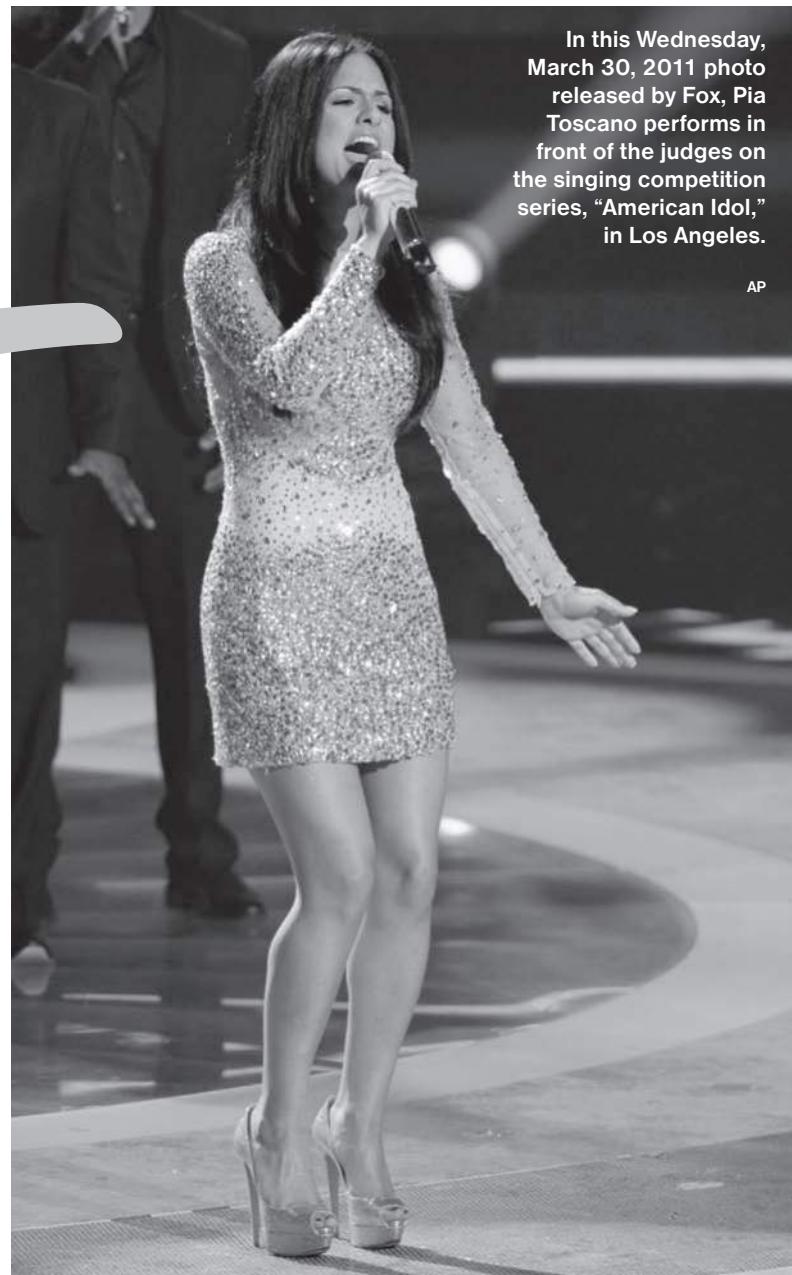
A 29-page questionnaire with those and other questions was released Thursday after prospects who said they could serve on the two-month trial of Dr. Conrad Murray finished answering its 117 questions.

Candidates were asked if they had ever seen Jackson or his family members in person, whether they own his records or DVDs, attended his concerts or saw his posthumous concert movie, "This is It," and if so why they watched it.

In one section, prospects were asked if they knew any of the more than 100 potential witnesses. Included on the list were Jackson's three children—Prince, Paris and Blanket—as well as his parents, brothers and sisters.

Large chunks of the questions involved familiarity with drugs and exposure to media coverage of the case, including Internet and social media postings. Jury prospects also were asked if they had ever posted blog entries about the case.

In a section headlined, "Attitudes about celebrities and people in the news," they were asked, "Do you think that people of wealth or fame are treated differently in the court system?"



In this Wednesday, March 30, 2011 photo released by Fox, Pia Toscano performs in front of the judges on the singing competition series, "American Idol," in Los Angeles.

Jackson called her one of the best singers in the show's 10th-season field and warned that "no one is safe" if votes aren't cast for them.

"I'm never upset on this show, and I'm never really mad, but this, like, this makes me mad," Jackson said. "What is going on?"

After choosing "I'll Stand by You" for her swan song, Toscano was embraced by Jacob Lusk, 23, of Compton, Calif., who had landed in the bottom three vote-getters with her and Stefano Langone, 21, of Kent, Wash.

Lusk had held to his gospel roots, replacing his planned version of Marvin Gaye's sexually charged "Let's Get It On" with Michael Jackson's inspirational "Man in the Mirror." Langone sang Percy Sledge's "When a Man Loves a Woman."

Also left to sing another day were Paul McDonald, 26, of Nashville, Tenn.; Casey Abrams, 20, of Idyllwild, Calif.; Haley Reinhart, 20, of Wheeling, Ill.; Lauren Alaina, 16, of Rossville, Ga.; Scotty McCreery, 17, of Garner, N.C., and James Durbin, 22, of Santa Cruz, Calif.

The show Thursday also included a performance of "Real Wild Child" by a shirtless Iggy Pop, with either technical or language glitches causing a loss of sound on occasion.

Girls Gone Wild founder cleared in civil case

PANAMA CITY, Fla. (AP)—An all-woman federal jury decided Thursday that Girls Gone Wild founder Joe Francis is not liable for the emotional distress four anonymous plaintiffs claimed to have suffered from appearances in one of his videos.

The verdict followed an eight-day trial in Panama City in the Florida Panhandle. The jury of eight women began deliberating late Wednesday morning and took 14 hours to reach a decision.

The lawsuit claimed Francis exploited them by filming them flashing their breasts and engaging in other sexual activities in Panama City. It also claimed the women were ridiculed, ostracized and forced to leave school when videos were released.

Francis was relieved by the verdict.

"I'm feeling fantastic," Francis told the Panama City News Herald. "I'm just happy it's over. This thing has dragged on long enough."

The four plaintiffs sued in March 2008, shortly after Francis pleaded no contest to state criminal charges related to their case. Francis maintained his innocence, saying he only made a plea deal to get out of jail. Those charges were based on a 2003 raid of his Bay County hotel rooms and corporate jet.

The plaintiffs are now adults, but they were allowed to file their suit using only their initials because they were all under 18 when they appeared in the video.

Francis had been representing himself until Judge Richard Smoak found him in contempt and fined him \$2,500 after he asked one of the plaintiffs if she was a prostitute. Smoak had previously warned Francis to treat the plaintiffs gently during cross-examinations. Two of the women left the stand in tears.

"I think the judge was wrong," Francis said. "I shook them like a tree until all the fruit fell out, and I shook them violently."

The plaintiffs were seeking compensatory and punitive damages for the emotional injuries they said they'd suffered. The jury agreed with the complaint that Francis' behavior was "beyond all possible bounds of decency and is regarded as shocking, atrocious and utterly intolerable in a civilized community," but not with intent to cause emotional distress to the plaintiffs.

5 best Cate Blanchett performances

By CHRISTY LEMIRE
AP MOVIE CRITIC

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Whether she's front-and-center as the star of a film or playing a juicy supporting part, Cate Blanchett is always fascinating to watch, with her astounding versatility and transfixing, chameleon-like features.

This week, Blanchett plays a villainous CIA operative on the hunt for a teenage killing machine in "Hanna." The Australian actress works a Texas drawl that drips with menace, but she's also quite adept at running in Prada heels. So we took on the daunting task of selecting five—and only five—of her best performances:

"THE AVIATOR" (2004)

Blanchett won the Academy Award for best supporting actress for her portrayal of Katharine Hepburn opposite Leonardo DiCaprio's tormented Howard Hughes in Martin Scorsese's spectacle of a biopic. She's a complete joy to watch. Blanchett isn't doing a dead-on impression, and she shouldn't be, but she definitely embodies the actress' spirit. Just seeing her stride across a golf course and hearing her ask Hughes in that hard New England accent whether he likes the the-a-tah—because she just loves the the-a-tah—is a total hoot.

"I'M NOT THERE" (2007)

Writer-director Todd Haynes took an ambitious approach to the often-clipped musical biography genre by casting six different actors to play Bob Dylan. But the boldest choice of all was in selecting Blanchett as one of them. This may sound gimmicky but she's riveting to watch: lanky, androgynous, jittery, evasive and combative. She's repeatedly shown she can immerse herself in any role—why not have her play Dylan? You quickly forget you're watching a woman playing a man; she's so good, she makes you wish she'd been playing the singer throughout the entire film.

"COFFEE AND CIGARETTES" (2003)

Jim Jarmusch's film features 11 black-and-white vignettes in which various actors and musicians play versions of themselves while chatting over the titular coffee and cigarettes. But Blanchett stars alone in one of the most subtly poignant segments. She plays herself, staying at an upscale hotel for a movie junket, and she also plays a cousin who arrives for a quick hello and reveals that she's bitterly jealous of Blanchett's success. Each character is fully realized and distinct from the other, yet the melding of both performances is seamless.

"THE GIFT" (2000)

Sam Raimi's supernatural thriller oozes Southern gothic atmosphere, and its strong cast led by Blanchett elevates it beyond its B-movie origins. She stars as a widow raising three young sons in a small Georgia town who makes money by performing psychic readings. She sarcastically dismisses this "gift," but her visions are crucial to solving the disappearance of a young woman. Blanchett's naturalism is mesmerizing; she manages to be grounded and yet otherworldly. She'd been nominated for a best-actress Oscar a year earlier for "Elizabeth," but she can actually be more compelling in a less showy role like this.

"NOTES ON A SCANDAL" (2006)

Blanchett and Judi Dench are both so exceedingly skilled, you could just turn on the camera and let them go to work; both women received Oscar nominations for the film. Their scenes together percolate with tension, with Dench as a lonely teacher who manipulates Blanchett as the school's new art instructor. It's a classier version of "Single White Female," but Blanchett finds subtlety in the role as a woman filled with insecurity who makes one bad choice after another. An affair with a teenage student is only the beginning.



In this Feb. 27, 2011 file photo, Cate Blanchett arrives before the 83rd Academy Awards in the Hollywood section of Los Angeles. AP

Eva Longoria shows off kitchen skills

NEW YORK (AP)—Eva Longoria's character on "Desperate Housewives" isn't exactly domestic, but in real life the actress says she "tries to cook every day."

She's released a cookbook called "Eva's Kitchen: Cooking with Love for Family and Friends." It includes family recipes and her own go-to dishes such as chicken tortilla soup.

The 36-year-old actress, who plays a former model and the youngest of the housewives on Wisteria Lane on the ABC nighttime soap opera, is a big cookbook collector and had a clear vision of the beautiful photos and stories she wanted with her own book.

Compiling the dishes into cookbook recipes, though, was



In this April 4, 2011 file photo, Eva Longoria attends a book signing for her cookbook "Eva's Kitchen" at Borders Books in New York.

at times challenging, she said Thursday.

"I'm a natural cooker, and I cook by instinct so if I want salt I'll put salt and if I don't I don't, so I felt really bad telling people to put, you know, a quarter-cup of cheese if they didn't want it, you know, I'm like, 'Or not! You don't have to!'" she said. "I just felt really bossy so that was really hard for me because I always find cooking so natural."

Longoria's advice for those who aren't kitchen naturals is to get your timing right—especially with breakfast.

"People tend to make eggs first, and eggs should be the last things you make because they're the fastest," she said. "You should always make your bacon or your biscuits first be-

cause they can sit. Then you make your hot-stove items."

Her must-have ingredient is lemon.

"I put lemon in everything, on everything," she says with a laugh. "It's really great for sauces, for dressings, for fish, for meat. I love lemon. I always have fresh lemons in the house. Also I have an herb garden so I have cilantro, I have mint, I have basil, and it's always great to just pick those off right from the garden and put them into food."

Longoria, who filed for divorce from San Antonio Spurs basketball player Tony Parker last year, says she still has many other dishes and crockpot recipes that didn't make it into the cookbook and she'd like to write another one in the future.

3 'Jersey Shore' stars set for MTV spinoff shows

NEW YORK (AP)—Life isn't always a day at the beach for the stars of "Jersey Shore," so three of its cast members will also be appearing in MTV spinoffs.

The network said Thursday that Nicole "Snooki" Polizzi and Jenni "JWoww" Farley have been paired in a new reality series that will follow their adventures when their summer share is over.

Meanwhile, Paul "DJ Pauly D" Delvecchio has scored his own 12-episode reality series that chronicles his life as a disc jockey. Both series begin production later this year and are slated to air in 2012.

MTV says they will duplicate the "humorous and unapologetic" style that has made "Jersey Shore" a hit. The next season of "Jersey Shore," its fourth, will also have all three stars on board.

Cowell widens audition process for 'The X Factor'

NEW YORK (AP)—Simon Cowell wants to make sure he finds the most talented singer for the U.S. debut of "The X Factor." That's why he's set up audition studios in Nashville, Tenn.; Anchorage, Alaska; Kansas City, Kan.; and Denver throughout April.

"It probably isn't as fun as attending an open audition, but it is your chance to be seen and heard and I'm going to try to put these in as many cities as possible," the former "American Idol" judge said Thursday in a teleconference with reporters.

Cowell will be joined on the judges' panel by Antonio

"L.A." Reid, former chairman of Island Def Jam Music, when the show premieres in September.

"The X Factor" is based on Cowell's British-born hit series and debuting on Fox this fall. At stake is a \$5 million recording contract.

Those invited to the booths to sing must be at least 12 years old and can be solo artists or vocal groups. Each audition will be sent to the show's producers, and those selected will take part in callbacks.

The decision has not been made about who the third judge will be,



Cowell

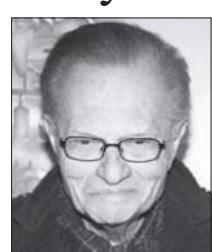
but Cowell said that Black Eyed Peas singer Fergie has come up in discussions.

"Her name was put forward, but like with a lot of other people we've spoken to, we have to check out everyone's availability," he said. "There's a lot of time you have to put into this show."

This is not a two-day-a-week process. When you're mentoring the contestants, you're working 5, 6 days a week."

Cowell hopes his show will produce audition moments that go viral.

Larry King, TV pitchman; want a breath freshener?



King

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Larry King's business portfolio is expanding from bagels to breath mints.

The former CNN host, who announced last month he was joining with a New York bagel maker to open a Beverly Hills store, now is hawking a breath freshener.

In a release Thursday, King said he and his wife, Shawn, "love" the

product so much that they have become partners in it. The goal, King said, is to "make sure people share our enthusiasm" for the mint-coated capsule, BreathGemz.

King and his wife will promote the product in TV and radio spots and, as the company put it, demonstrate that people in all "strata of life" face breath issues.

SHOWBIZ TIDBITS

Saudi prince downsizes plan for 90210 mega-mansion

LOS ANGELES (AP)—A Saudi prince who raised the ire of his wealthy neighbors by proposing to build a mega-mansion in the coveted 90210 zip code is scaling back his plans. A law firm representing the business that bought the 5.2-acre property in Benedict Canyon withdrew the application Thursday for a proposed 85,000-square-foot compound that would have included a 42,000-square-foot main residence, villa, guest house, caretaker's house and staff quarters. The law firm says it plans to resubmit plans for a smaller project. Residents of the neighborhood that is home to Jay Leno, David Beckham and Bruce Springsteen have voiced their objections to the palatial home.

Claire Danes, Don Cheadle newest Showtime stars

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Two new series are coming to the Showtime channel, one starring Claire Danes and the other Don Cheadle. Danes' series, "Homeland," is described as a psychological thriller about a CIA officer trying to unravel a suspected terrorist plot. The cast includes Damian Lewis ("Band of Brothers") and Mandy Patinkin. "House of Lies," a half-hour comedy set in the world of management consultants, stars Cheadle as a schemer who does anything to win. Kristin Bell ("Veronica Mars") co-stars as a sharp Ivy League grad who works with him. Showtime said Thursday that it has ordered 12 episodes of each series, with production starting this summer. Air dates were not announced.

2 arraigned in shooting death of NYC DJ Megatron

NEW YORK (AP)—Two New York City men have been charged with murder in the shooting death of radio and TV personality DJ Megatron. Twenty-one-year-old William Williams and 20-year-old Richard Cromwell appeared in court Thursday. They were arrested Wednesday on charges of murder, robbery and criminal possession of a weapon. Their lawyers say they are not guilty. Police say the 32-year-old disc jockey was shot once in the chest while walking to a store near his home on New York's Staten Island last month. His real name was Corey McGriff. DJ Megatron worked on BET's "106 & Park" music countdown series, mainly in a role interacting with its live audience. He also did some on-camera work for the show and BET's website.

Luxury shoemaker sues over red sole design in NYC

NEW YORK (AP)—A French shoemaker has sued a rival in a New York City court, saying the competitor is unfairly copying its line of women's shoes with red soles. It cites the popularity of its shoes with celebrities including Sarah Jessica Parker, Scarlett Johansson and Halle Berry. Christian Louboutin S.A. filed the lawsuit in U.S. District Court in Manhattan against Yves Saint Laurent S.A.S., another French company based in Paris. The lawsuit says designer Christian Louboutin originated the Red Sole logo trademark nearly 20 years ago. It says he created the idea when he painted red nail polish on the black soles of a pair of women's shoes. The lawsuit seeks unspecified damages.

Senior wanting small college confronts big issue at home

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

DEAR ABBY: I am a high school senior who has been filling out applications for college. I have found a few small liberal arts colleges I'd love to attend, and I have a favorite.

My problem: My father has been out of work for quite some time. He has applied for a job at a large state college. I visited the school and don't like it because it's a huge party school. My mother has now informed me that if Dad gets the job, I'll have no choice but to go there because we would get a 70 percent discount in tuition.

I feel angry and guilty at the same time. The anger is because my parents had promised me that college would be my choice. The guilt is for not wanting my father to get this job, even though it would greatly help my family's financial situation. Dad has made the second round of the long interview process. What should I do?



Dear Abby

BOUND FOR COLLEGE

DEAR BOUND FOR COLLEGE: Your parents may have promised you your choice of colleges, but that was likely when your family's financial situation was much better. What you should do is, first, pray that your father gets the job he so desperately needs. Then go to the library and start exploring what financial aid or scholarships are available at the schools you'd prefer to attend.

Also, don't turn up your nose at the state college just yet. While it may have a reputation as a party school, that doesn't mean you have to participate in the festivities. If you're a serious student, you can still get an excellent education and your degree, if you're willing to keep your shoulder to the grindstone and work for it.

■ ■ ■
DEAR ABBY: I have been happily married to my husband for 20 years. My problem is my children want me to make friends. My HUSBAND is my best friend. I don't feel the need to go on "girls' nights out" or anything else. I'm happy just to be with him.

I'm not anti-social, just content. Besides, I have seen what can happen to relationships when these kinds of outings go too far. I don't want to offend my kids because they have only my best interests at heart, but I'm tired of the pressure. How can I get my adult children to leave my personal life alone and stop trying to get me to make friends?

HAPPY AT HOME

DEAR HAPPY: Your children may be urging you to make friends because they are aware that, statistically, women outlive their husbands. They don't want you to be completely isolated if something should happen to their father, or worse, completely dependent upon THEM for a social life. Frankly, I think they have a point. However, as an adult you can make your own decisions. And if yours is that you don't want to expand your circle (of two), just say it in plain English.

■ ■ ■
DEAR ABBY: From time to time you print helpful suggestions to readers in your column. Allow me to pass along a no-cost charitable contribution:

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DAVID M. IN SAN FRANCISCO

DEAR DAVID: What a thoughtful gesture. I'm sure my readers will appreciate your suggestion.

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Write *Dear Abby* at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

Good advice for everyone—teens to seniors—is in "The Anger in All of Us and How to Deal With It." To order, send a business-size, self-addressed envelope, plus check or money order for \$6 (U.S. funds only) to: *Dear Abby—Anger Booklet*, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Postage is included in the price.)

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REPORTER'S NOTEBOOK

By JAYVIE VALLEJERA
jayvieve.vallejera@saipantribune.com
WASHINGTON, D.C.—The

Channel predicted near-freezing weather for Jan. 5, the day the 112th Congress was to be sworn in. What D.C. got was a blindingly sunny day, with hardly a cloud to mar the cobalt blue sky.

In fact, it was chillier inside the capitol, when outgoing House Speaker Nancy Pelosi (D-Calif.) was preparing to hand over the gavel to the new speaker, John Boehner (R-Ohio). When Pelosi began enumerating the accomplishments of the 111th Congress under her leadership, the Republican side of the House was

enough to cause icicles to form on the ceiling. The GOP, after all, campaigned—and won—on a platform to undo most of what the Democratic-led 111th Congress accomplished.

Pelosi's farewell speech was punctuated by applause some 19 times but the clapping was only unanimous on both sides of the aisle about 10 times: when she thanked her leagues for making her the fourth speaker (the fourth appla

when she said that Boehner's respe

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McIlroy, Quiros off to roarin' start at Masters



AUGUSTA, Ga. (AP)— The flair of Rory McIlroy. The sheer power of Alvaro Quiros. These are but two of the fresh faces in golf who offered more evidence Thursday at the Masters that a new generation is on the way.

And that's only going to make it tougher on Phil Mickelson and Tiger Woods.

The 21-year-old McIlroy, who opened with a 63 at St. Andrews last summer in the British Open, again delivered exquisite shots on one of golf's biggest stages for a 7-under 65. It was such a clean round that he didn't make a bogey and was left wondering how much lower he could have gone if not for missing five birdie chances inside 10 feet.

"It wasn't maybe as exclusive or spectacular as the 63 at St. Andrews," he said. "But it was very solid from start to finish."

Then came Quiros, a 28-year-old Spaniard whom many consider the longest hitter in the game. Blasting away on a course where he had never shot better than 75, he spun an approach back to 3 feet on the 18th hole to catch McIlroy atop the leaderboard.

They had a two-shot lead over a pair of South Koreans, former PGA champion Y.E. Yang and K.J. Choi.

Mickelson and Woods, with six green jackets between them in the last decade, blended in more than they stood out.

Woods played in the morning in only a moderate breeze, ideal conditions for scoring. But he lost his way starting the back nine with consecutive bogeys, made only one birdie on the par 5s and had to settle for a 71.

"I would rather be where Rory's at," Woods said. "But, hey, it's a long way to go. We have a long grind ahead of us. The temperature is supposed to warm up and I'm sure they will start making the pins a little more difficult as the week goes on. I'm right there in the ballgame. I'm only six back, and as I said, we've got a lot of golf ahead of us."

Mickelson was far more erratic off the tee, hitting tee shots into the Georgia pines and spraying one so far into the azaleas left of the 13th fairway that he looked like he was on an Easter egg hunt as he searched for his ball. He hit only four fairways, last in the field of 99 players.

As always, his superb chipping kept him from dropping shots on three straight holes around the turn. His only mistake came on the 18th, when he hit his approach into the gallery left of the green and chipped too hard, missing a 7-foot par putt for a 70.

"I scrambled well today, but I let four or five birdie opportunities slide," Mickelson said. "I'm going to have to capitalize on those opportunities to go low. I didn't shoot myself out of it, but I didn't make up ground on the field like I wanted to."

The top Americans on the leaderboard were Matt Kuchar and Ricky Barnes at 68. Another shot back was a group that included former U.S. Open champion Geoff Ogilvy, Brandt Snedeker and Sergio Garcia, who is slowly showing signs of a revival.

The good news for McIlroy was not only a great start to the Masters, but a great forecast.

Last summer in Scotland, the freck-



AP
Rory McIlroy of Northern Ireland walks up to the 16th green during the first round of the Masters golf tournament Thursday, April 7, 2011, in Augusta, Ga.

le-faced kid from Northern Ireland followed his record-tying 63 with an 80 when he got caught up in the blustery conditions of St. Andrews. He eventually rallied for a tie for third at the Open, and hopes he gained some experience.

"Obviously at the time, I was very disappointed to come off the course and shoot 80 after shooting 63," McIlroy said. "But looking back on it, it was a very valuable lesson in my development as a golfer. It's possible that I can go out and shoot another 65, but I know that it's also very likely that I'm not going to do that."

"So if I do find myself in a bit of trouble, I'm going to have to stick in

there, grind it out."

This was not a day to grind, not with weather that only enhanced the garden beauty of Augusta, and not with hole locations along the front nine that allowed for such good scoring.

Retief Goosen started out by holing an 8-iron from 161 yards on the opening hole, the first player in 24 years to make eagle on the first hole of the Masters. He reached 5 under at the turn, only to get tripped on the back nine for a 70.

McIlroy fired off three straight birdies starting the par-5 second, the best of those a pitch from just outside 60 yards that skipped and stopped a few feet

from the hole at No. 3. He hit 7-iron just left of the pin on No. 9, then picked up another birdie on the 11th with a 5-iron that flirted with the pond left of the green and settled 8 feet away.

Two more birdies followed, and McIlroy had another stellar round in the majors. Despite being only 21—he is the youngest player atop the leaderboard after one round at the Masters—he already has six rounds at 68 or better in the majors on some of the tougher courses, from Carnoustie to Bethpage Black to Whistling Straits.

"Sounds simple," he said. "But it wasn't."

Quiros was in the final group of the day, and it was as explosive as there is in the game. He was joined by Gary Woodland and Jhonattan Vegas, two Augusta newcomers who qualified in recent months with their first PGA Tour win—more examples of a shift toward youth, two players built more for football and basketball than for golf.

They all bash it, and did they ever put on a show.

They combined to make 10 birdies and two eagles over the last six holes, enough reason for the gallery to stick around even as Woods was long gone and Mickelson was on the practice range in the fading sunlight.

Woodland, who played Division II basketball for one year, played his final six holes in 6-under par for a 69. Vegas, such an exciting young player that his colleagues call him "Johnny Vegas," three-putted for bogey from 12 feet on the 18th for a 72.

Augusta still showed some teeth if players got too careless.

PGA champion Martin Kaymer, the No. 1 player in the world, struggled again at the Masters and shot a 78. He has never made the cut, and it looks as though this might be another short week. Lee Westwood, runner-up to Mickelson last year, opened with a 72.

"It's not my game at the moment," Westwood said. "If you can't hole it out from 4 feet, you're going to struggle."

No one struggled more than Henrik Stenson, who shot an 83.

Quiros used to know that feeling. He made his Masters debut with rounds of 78-75 two years ago, and the lanky Spaniard couldn't do better than 75 in two rounds last year. So when he came to the course, he only checked the scores of his countrymen.

As for that 65 that McIlroy posted?

"You have to see, this is my third appearance, and my best score was 75," Quiros said. "I cannot be pretending to see the leaderboard. It would be stupid."

But he made up ground quickly with his length, making birdie on all the par 5s and staying out of trouble. He doesn't have the secrets unlocked at the Masters, and despite being tied for the lead, he still is thinking only of making the cut.

"The two previous years, I came to the Masters thinking that I can play well, shoot low. And this one was my main mistake," he said. "Because it's a golf course ... it's too tough. And today, I was very happy making pars. This is why probably I shoot 65."

Then again, maybe it's wise not to think too far ahead.

In the last 25 years, Trevor Immelman is the only Masters champion who was atop the leaderboard after the opening day.

Rose leads Bulls past Celtics, 97-81

CHICAGO (AP)—Derrick Rose scored 30 points and the Chicago Bulls closed in on the top seed in the Eastern Conference by beating the Boston Celtics 97-81 on Thursday.

The Bulls' 17th win in 19 games put them four games up on Boston and Miami with four to play and eliminated the Heat from getting the No. 1 seed.

The Celtics, who play the Heat on Sunday, still have a mathematical shot albeit a remote one.

But barring a collapse, Chicago will be the top seed in the East.

It's another step for a team that expected big things after a major overhaul, and all the Bulls have done is deliver their best season since Michael Jordan and Scottie Pippen made championship celebrations a regular event.

Rose was a one-man highlight reel against Rajon Rondo, beating him with his crossover and getting to the rim, particularly in the early going. Rose scored 16 points in the first half as the Bulls jumped out to a 48-43 lead, and Chicago regrouped after momentarily falling behind in the third.

Luol Deng scored 23 points, and Carlos Boozer added 14 points and 12 rebounds.

Chicago outscored the Celtics 44-22 in the paint, outrebounded them 44-35 and held Boston to 38.4 percent shooting.

Paul Pierce led Boston with 15 points. Kevin Garnett scored all 10 of his points in the second half and Rondo finished with seven. Jeff Green scored 10 and Ray Allen had seven points.

The Bulls led 48-43 at the half when Pierce made a jumper and Rondo hit his first two baskets to give Boston a one-point lead, but the Bulls responded by running off 10 straight, a dunk by Deng and floater by Rose making it 58-49 midway through the third.

It was 61-58 after Glen Davis hit two free throws with just over three minutes left in the quarter when the Bulls started a 13-2 run that stretched into the fourth quarter.

Deng started the spurt with a 3, and he followed a layup by Boozer off a turnover with a steal and layup to make it 68-58 with 1:31 left. Davis hit two free throws for Boston. But Rose made a 3 with 23 seconds left in the quarter, and Boozer added a three-point play 45 seconds into the fourth to boost Chicago's lead to 74-60.

Not only were the Bulls facing one of the top teams in the East, they also honored Pippen by unveiling a sculpture of him during a halftime ceremony.

Trail Blazers 98, Jazz 87

In Salt Lake City, Gerald Wallace scored 29 points and Nicolas Batum added 21 to lead Portland over sinking Utah.

Wallace scored 20 points in the second half as the Blazers wore down the injury-depleted Jazz, who had only nine healthy players. The loss assured Utah of its second losing season in 28 years.

Wesley Matthews scored 18 points and LaMarcus Aldridge had 12 for the Blazers, who moved into sole possession of the sixth playoff spot in the Western Conference, a half game ahead of New Orleans.

Devin Harris, who returned after missing five games with a strained hamstring, led the Jazz with 26 points.

Winless Red Sox off to worst start since 1945



CLEVE-
L A N D
(AP)—The

winless Boston Red Sox lost their sixth in a row for their worst start since 1945 when the Cleveland Indians squeezed home the only run in the eighth inning for a 1-0 victory on Thursday.

Boston, favored by many to win the World Series, returns to Fenway Park for its home opener on Friday against the New York Yankees.

Asdrubal Cabrera's suicide-squeeze bunt put the Indians ahead in their fourth straight victory.

They trapped pinch-runner Darnell McDonald off second base for the final out.

Cleveland swept the three-game series, which came after Texas swept the Red Sox to open the year.

Yankees 4, Twins 3

At New York, Derek Jeter passed Hall of Famers Rogers Hornsby and Jake Beckley for 33rd place on MLB's all-time list with two hits, and New York's relievers held off Minnesota in their first game since blowing a big lead.

A.J. Burnett (2-0) improved to 7-0 in 12 April starts for the Yankees, allowing two runs on five hits in six innings. With the Yankees up 4-3, Rafael Soriano pitched a scoreless eighth two days after he surrendered a 4-0 lead in a game Minnesota won in extra innings.

The Twins lost heralded Japanese import Tsuyoshi Nishioka to an apparent left leg injury when Nick Swisher slid into him at second base while breaking up a double play. Nishioka was 0 for 4 with a strikeout on Thursday to drop his average to .208.

Athletics 2, Blue Jays 1

At Toronto, Trevor Cahill pitched eight strong innings for his first win of the season, and Conor Jackson singled home the go-ahead run for Oakland to come from 1-0 down in the eighth to beat Toronto and avoid a three-game sweep.

Cahill (1-0) came in 0-2 with an 8.04 ERA in three starts against Toronto, but kept the Blue Jays in check. He allowed one run and three hits, walked none with seven strikeouts.

Toronto's Ricky Romero allowed one run and four hits in 7 1-3 innings. He walked two and struck out five.

Oakland infielder Mark Ellis went in as a defensive replacement in the eighth to appear in his 1,000th MLB game.

White Sox 5, Rays 1

At Chicago, Edwin Jackson struck out a career-high 13 as Chicago took its home opener and sent winless Tampa Bay to a sixth straight loss.

The AL East champion Rays



Boston Red Sox catcher Jarrod Saltalamacchia catches a foul pop by Cleveland Indians' Austin Kearns in the seventh inning in a baseball game, Thursday, April 7, 2011, in Cleveland.

Before deliberating, Bonds' jurors get an earful

SAN FRANCISCO (AP)—

The eight women and four men sat in the jury box for more than 4 1/2 hours, listening to angry arguments from federal prosecutors and Barry Bonds' attorneys at the end of a 12-day trial that exposed the dark world of baseball's Steroids Era.

Now, Bonds' fate is up to them.

After listening to tawdry accusations of drug use, theft and body parts that grew (Bonds' head) and shrank (his testicles), the 12-member panel gets to decide whether the home run king will become a convicted felon.

Bonds' trial on charges he lied to a grand jury more than seven years ago when he denied knowingly using performance-enhancing drugs ended Thursday with closing arguments from both sides that were filled with virulence and self-righteousness.

"There's a real irony to this case," Assistant U.S. Attorney

Matthew Parrella concluded. "These substances that the defendant took to make himself strong—he wasn't strong. He was weak. He was too weak to tell the truth despite all the anabolic steroids."

And with that, at 3:51 p.m. PDT, U.S. District Judge Susan Illston turned to the jury box and said: "At this point ladies and gentlemen, we're turning it over to you."

The jury's first order of business when it starts deliberations Friday—the day the World Series flag is raised at nearby AT&T Park, home of Bonds' San Francisco Giants—is to elect a foreman.

Then it must sort through the testimony of 25 witnesses and hundreds of exhibits that include syringes, vials and dizzying computer graphs of drug tests.

A seven-time MVP regarded as among the greatest hitters ever, Bonds is charged with three counts of making false

Vladimir Guerrero hit his first home run with the Orioles, who took two of three from the Tigers after opening the season with a three-game sweep in Tampa Bay.

Baltimore sent 10 batters to the plate in the seventh. After Brian Roberts and Nick Markakis reached against Brad Thomas (0-1), Guerrero singled in a run off Enrique Gonzalez and Jones hit a sacrifice fly for a 6-5 lead. Reynolds followed with a two-run double and Cesar Izturis got an RBI single.

Jim Johnson (1-0) pitched 1 2-3 innings of one-hit relief for Baltimore.

Phillies 11, Mets 0

In Philadelphia, Roy Halladay pitched seven sharp innings for

statements and one count of obstruction of justice. His lawyers ridiculed the prosecution as being celebrity obsessed and willing to cut deals with anyone who would implicate perhaps the top player of his generation.

"It's part of an effort to demonize Barry Bonds, and it's very wrong," lead defense lawyer Allen Ruby said.

Cristina Arguedas, another of Bonds' attorneys, repeatedly took off her glasses and pointed them contemptuously at Jeff Novitzky, the tall, bald federal investigator who was seated at the prosecution table.

"They have the power to end careers and to ruin lives," she said to the jury, her voice quivering. "And nobody gets to test that evidence unless they have the wherewithal and internal strength to come to a jury trial—to you."

Bonds is charged with lying when he denied knowingly receiving steroids and human

growth hormone from personal trainer Greg Anderson and for saying he allowed only doctors to inject him. An obstruction count lists four additional statements the government alleges were made to evade or mislead the grand jury.

Each count carries a possible sentence of 10 years in prison, but federal guidelines indicate a recommended total sentence of 15 to 21 months. For convictions for similar offenses in the Bay Area Laboratory Co-Operative (BALCO) case, Illston sentenced two people to home confinement.

Bonds doesn't dispute that he took steroids but testified to the grand jury that Anderson told him they were flaxseed oil and arthritic balm. Parrella, in his 51-minute rebuttal that ended the trial, compared that to a teenager who arrives home glassy eyed on a Saturday night and tells his parents "I went to a bar and they told me it was just Coke."

eight hits in four innings.

Valdez, filling in for injured All-Star Chase Utley, finished 4 for 4 with three RBIs, two doubles and two singles. Placido Polanco drove in four runs and Raul Ibanez hit a two-run homer.

Astros 3, Reds 2

At Cincinnati, Matt Downs doubled home the tiebreaking run with two outs in the ninth inning as Houston held on for its first win of the season over previously unbeaten Cincinnati.

The Astros were the last NL team to win a game, and they did it with a little drama.

Downs, who had struck out in all three of his at-bats this season, doubled off Nick Masset (0-1) for the lead. Closer Bran-

don Lyon, who blew his only other save chance on opening day, gave up a pair of two-out singles before getting pinch-hitter Ramon Hernandez to ground into a forceout.

The Reds won their first five games for the first time since 1990. They were the lone NL team left without a loss—Texas is still perfect in the American League.

Brewers 4, Braves 2

At Milwaukee, Nyjer Morgan jarred the ball loose in a collision at home to give Milwaukee the lead in the second inning as the Brewers went on to beat Atlanta for a third straight win.

Ryan Braun hit his third home run of the season for the Brewers, who have recovered nicely from a four-game losing streak to start the year. Milwaukee rallied to take three of four games from the Braves after losing Monday's home opener at Miller Park.

Martin Prado had a two-run single for Atlanta, which will hold its home opener on Friday after playing its first seven games on the road.

Atlanta couldn't muster much run support for starter Tommy Hanson (0-2), who gave up three runs, seven hits and a walk with two strikeouts in 5 1-3 innings.

Rockies 7, Pirates 1

At Pittsburgh, Esmil Rogers allowed four singles while pitching into the eighth inning, Troy Tulowitzki homered and drove in three runs, and Colorado wrecked the Pirates' home opener under new manager Clint Hurdle.

Rogers (1-0) won the Rockies' No. 5 job with a strong finish in spring training. He looked more like their ace, mixing a devastating 95 mph (153 kph) fastball with a few breaking pitches to overwhelm the Pirates over 7 1-3 dominant innings. After giving up singles to the first two batters, he retired 22 of 23, including 18 straight.

Tulowitzki connected for his third homer in the fourth off Paul Maholm (0-1) to make it 3-1 as the Rockies won their fourth straight.

Nationals 5, Marlins 3, 11 innings

In Miami, Adam LaRoche had a two-run homer in the 11th inning as Washington salvaged the final game of the series.

LaRoche was 3 for 23 before he hit his first homer of the year off Edward Mujica (1-1). That ended a streak of 12 2-3 scoreless innings for Florida's bullpen in the series.

The Marlins struck out 12 times and went 1 for 11 with runners in scoring position.

Todd Coffey (1-0) pitched a perfect 10th and Sean Burnett pitched the 11th for his second save.

SGA April Ace of the Month this Sunday



The Saipan Golf Association will hold its April Ace of the Month Tournament this Sunday, April 10, at the Laolao Bay Golf Resort west course. Show time is set for 9am with a 10:30am tee off. (SGA)

TRIBUNE SPORTS SCORES

NBA STANDINGS

EASTERN CONFERENCE

Atlantic Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
y-Boston	54	24	.692	—
x-New York	40	38	.513	14
x-Philadelphia	40	39	.506	14 1/2
New Jersey	24	54	.308	30
Toronto	21	57	.269	33

Southeast Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
y-Miami	54	24	.692	—
x-Orlando	50	29	.633	4 1/2
x-Atlanta	44	34	.564	10
Charlotte	32	46	.410	22
Washington	21	57	.269	33

Central Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
y-Chicago	58	20	.744	—
x-Indiana	36	43	.456	22 1/2
Milwaukee	32	46	.410	26
Detroit	27	51	.346	31
Cleveland	17	61	.218	41

WESTERN CONFERENCE

Southwest Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
y-San Antonio	60	19	.759	—
x-Dallas	53	25	.679	6 1/2
x-New Orleans	45	33	.577	14 1/2
Memphis	44	34	.564	15 1/2
Houston	41	38	.519	19

Northwest Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
y-Oklahoma City	52	26	.667	—
x-Denver	48	30	.615	4
x-Portland	46	33	.582	6 1/2
Utah	37	42	.468	15 1/2
Minnesota	17	62	.215	35 1/2

Pacific Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
y-L.A. Lakers	55	23	.705	—
Phoenix	38	40	.487	17
Golden State	35	44	.443	20 1/2
L.A. Clippers	31	48	.392	24 1/2
Sacramento	23	55	.295	32

x-clinched playoff spot

y-clinched division

z-clinched conference

Yesterday's Games

Chicago 97, Boston 81

Portland 98, Utah 87

MLB STANDINGS

AMERICAN LEAGUE

East Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Baltimore	5	1	.833	—
New York	4	2	.667	1
Toronto	4	2	.667	1
Boston	0	6	.000	5
Tampa Bay	0	6	.000	5

Central Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Chicago	4	2	.667	—
Cleveland	4	2	.667	—
Kansas City	4	2	.667	—
Detroit	2	4	.333	2
Minnesota	2	4	.333	2

West Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Texas	6	0	1.000	—
Los Angeles	3	3	.500	3
Oakland	2	4	.333	2
Seattle	2	4	.333	4

NATIONAL LEAGUE

East Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Philadelphia	5	1	.833	—
Florida	3	3	.500	2
New York	3	3	.500	2
Atlanta	3	4	.429	2 1/2
Washington	2	4	.333	3

Central Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Cincinnati	5	1	.833	—
Pittsburgh	4	3	.571	1 1/2
Chicago	3	3	.500	2
Milwaukee	3	4	.429	2 1/2
St. Louis	2	4	.333	3
Houston	1	5	.167	4

West Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Colorado	4	1	.800	—
San Diego	3	2	.600	1
Los Angeles	3	3	.500	1 1/2
Arizona	2	3	.400	2
San Francisco	2	4	.333	2 1/2

Yesterday's Games

Houston 3, Cincinnati 2

Colorado 7, Pittsburgh 1

Milwaukee 4, Atlanta 2

Philadelphia 11, N.Y. Mets 0

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

OVER

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Manny tournament with Frank Sablan winning the competition at the Marianas Country Club.

Meanwhile, organizers would like to thank the following for their monetary donation: San Vicente Parish, San Francisco De Borja, Santa Soledad, Mt. Carmel School, San Antonio Parish, Mount Carmel Cathedral, Kristo Rai, San Roque Parish, St. Jude, Santa Remedios, Saipan Health Clinic, HBR International, Songao Ent., Kautz Glass, Henry K. Pangelinan and Associates, DK Brothers, Radiocom, Rentbat Co., Good Day Coordinating, Northpac, ABC Rent A Car, UMDA Wholesale, Reliance

Carmelita lures in heaviest at Mahi Fishing Derby

Thirty-one boats from Saipan and Tinian turned out for the 7th Annual Miller Lite Mahi Fishing Derby last March 26.

Supreme Court Associate Judge Alex Castro Sr. and crewmen Alex Castro Jr., Rufino Inos, and Jervy Babauta of *Carmelita* re



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McIlroy, Quiros
off to roarin'
start at Masters

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SAIPAN TRIBUNE

CNMI strikers not going to Noumea

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

It's final, the CNMI will not be sending football teams to the 2011 Pacific Games in New Caledonia.

Northern Marianas Amateur Sports Association president Michael White said Northern Mariana Islands Football Association decided to withdraw from the Games to avoid complications that would arise from its participation in the quadrennial meet.

NMIFA had initially informed NMASA that it will send men's and women's teams to New Caledonia and White then informed the Pacific Games Council that the CNMI will be competing in football.

However, the CNMI's participation to the Games hit a snag after NMASA was informed that the football competition in New Caledonia will be used as an Oceania Football Confederation qualifier for the 2014 FIFA World Cup and OFC, which is sponsoring the tournament, does not want a non-OFC member to compete in Noumea. The CNMI is affiliated with the Asian Football Confederation (associate member) and East Asian Football Federation (regular member).

"To avoid further problems, NMIFA gracefully decided to withdraw from the tournament and respect OFC's decision and NMASA commends the



ROSELYN B. MONROYO

The CNMI's Jason Schroeder, right, battles a Guamanian player for the ball during their game in the Marianas Cup last year at the Oleai Sports Complex. The CNMI pulled out from the 2011 Pacific Games.

local football association for doing the right thing," White said during the NMASA meeting on Thursday at the

conference room of the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

See CNMI on Page 27

Batters, hurlers impress in Little League

By WALTER CEPEDA-SUTHERLAND
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REPORTER



IT&E Fielders' Jonathan Celis currently leads the batting race of the Big League, while Jeffrey Lizama of BTS Survivors and Ricardo Dela Cruz of Kagman Lions are showing the way in the category in the Junior and Senior leagues, respectively.

Celis leads the Big League with 14 hits in 25 at bats for an impressive 0.560 batting average. His teammate Kevin Villagomez is second after going 9-for-18 for a 0.500 batting average. Island Apparel-Kagman Mobil Station Hustlers' MacGarett Duenas is third after going 9-for-19 for a 0.473 batting average.

IT&E's Juan Maratita (10-for-22, 0.454), JC Marketing-Toothworks Hunters' Anthony Guerrero (10-for-22, 0.454), Hustlers' Joaquin Muna (7-for-16, 0.437), Northern

See BATTERS on Page 27



ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Diocese of Chalan Kanoa apostolic administrator Father Ryan Jimenez, fifth from left, receives the over \$6,000 donation raised from the 2011 Father Manny Memorial Golf Classic during a turnover ceremony at the Aqua Resort Club on Thursday. Present at the ceremony were SGA and Fil-Taga members and Ben Babauta, fourth left, one of the organizers of the tournament.

Over \$6K raised in Fr. Manny golf tourney

Organizers of the 2011 Father Manny Memorial Golf Classic raised over \$6,000 that were turned over to the Diocese of Chalan Kanoa.

Diocese of Chalan Kanoa apostolic administrator Father Ryan Jimenez received the donation during a turnover ceremony at the Aqua Resort Club on Thursday from organizers Ted Malaran, Ben Babauta, Rick Kautz, former Superior Court presiding judge

Shutout wins in NMIFA youth league

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER



Three of the four teams that played in Week 4 of the 2011 NMIFA Youth Spring League posted shutout wins to keep their good standings in their respective divisions.

Of the three, Matansa Football Club recorded the biggest shutout win, as it clobbered MP United in the first game in the girls U15 division, 6-0, at the Hopwood Junior High School Field.

Tahlia Hideo led Matansa's demolition of MP United after scoring four goals. The Matansa striker now has eight goals to lead the league. Also making it to the scoreboard for Matansa in last weekend's game were Jace Pineda and Patricia Mae Echavez, who had one goal apiece. It was Echavez's second goal of the season, while Pineda logged her first.

The win was the third in four games for Matansa and third in a row after drawing its opening match with MP United. Matansa is still in the lead, ahead by one win over Paire Football Club, while MP United absorbed its first loss after drawing its first three games.

Paire 1, Tan Holdings 0

Paire kept pace with Matansa after improving to a 2-1-1 win-draw-loss record, following a 1-0 triumph over Tan Holdings Football Club in the



ROSELYN B. MONROYO

A Matansa Football Club player uses her knee to keep the ball during their game against Tan Holdings FC in the girls U15 division of the NMIFA league at the Hopwood Junior High School Field.

second game at the Hopwood pitch.

Adela Saralu scored the lone goal in the game to give Paire its second win and hand Tan Holdings its third loss in four matches.

See SHUTOUT on Page 27

Edward Manibusan, Mike Cruz, and other members of Saipan Golf Association and Fil-Taga Golf Association.

"We are very thankful to all the organizers and the donors for supporting this fundraiser. Father Manny Corcuer was a very avid golfer and supported fundraising tournaments and the Diocese of Chalan Kanoa is thankful to the

golf community for doing a tournament in honor of him," Jimenez said.

Corcuer died off lingering illness in December last year and part of the proceeds from the March 26 tournament will be used to pay his medical expenses. Jimenez said the rest of the donation will be used for the diocese's apostolic works.

Over 50 golfers joined the Father See **OVER on Page 27**